

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. VIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 129.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 1848.

[PRICE 6d.]

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION FOR THE LIBERATION OF RELIGION FROM ALL STATE-INTERFERENCE.

THE PUBLIC ANNUAL MEETING will be held at FINSBURY CHAPEL, THIS (WEDNESDAY) EVENING, May 3, at half-past six o'clock precisely. Dr. Thomas Price (the Treasurer) will preside, and Col. Thompson, M.P., R. Gardner, Esq., M.P. (Leicester), George Thompson, Esq., M.P., the Rev. W. G. Barrett (Missionary from Demerara), Rev. J. R. Campbell (of Edinburgh), E. Miall, Esq., Rev. John Burnet, and others, are expected to address the meeting. Offices, 12, Warwick-square, Paternoster-row.

THE COMMITTEE of the BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY respectfully solicit the aid of the Friends of Missions, in supplying the deficiency in the Income of last year, and the liquidation of the present debt of the Society.

Deficiency at the end of March, 1846	£5,003
Surplus of Income over Expenditure in 1847	1,292
Deficiency in April, 1847	£3,711
Diminution of Income from ordinary sources, in 1848	£2,480
Ditto ditto in Legacies	2,500
	£1,980
Ditto of Expenditure	3,457
Addition to Debt in the year	£1,523
Present Deficiency	£5,234
Agents supported in 1837	85
Ditto ditto in 1847	225

The following donations are thankfully acknowledged:—

	£	s.	d.
S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P.	250	0	0
W. B. Gurney, Esq.	250	0	0
A Friend, by J. A.	250	0	0
Rev. Joshua Russell	100	0	0
W. L. Smith, Esq.	100	0	0
Joseph Tritton, Esq.	100	0	0
John Henderson, Esq.	100	0	0
J. H. Allen, Esq.	50	0	0
W. W. Nash, Esq., and Mrs. Nash	50	0	0
G. T. Kemp, Esq.	50	0	0
Mrs. Bartlemore Castleden	50	0	0
Rev. Dr. Hoby	25	0	0
W. Collins, Esq.	25	0	0
Joseph Hanson, Esq.	25	0	0
Thomas Bignold, Esq.	21	0	0
Thomas Pentres, Esq.	20	0	0
J. L. Benham, Esq.	20	0	0
Freeman Roe, Esq.	20	0	0
W. H. Millar, Esq.	15	15	0
Henry Roberts, Esq.	10	10	0
Rev. J. Angus	10	0	0
J. Danford, Esq.	10	0	0
J. L. Phillips, Esq.	10	0	0
C. S. Tossell, Esq.	10	0	0
Thomas Hepburn, Esq.	10	0	0
Rev. Dr. Steane	10	0	0
Rev. F. A. Cox	10	0	0
George Lowe, Esq.	10	0	0
Thomas Young, Esq.	5	5	0
John Hepburn, Esq.	5	5	0
J. J. Smith, Esq.	5	5	0
R. P. Daniell, Esq.	5	5	0
Rev. Dr. Acworth	5	5	0
Rev. J. H. Hinton	5	0	0
Rev. T. Swan	5	0	0
Rev. S. Trestrail	5	0	0
Rev. C. Stovel	5	0	0
Rev. Dr. Murch	5	0	0
Mrs. Heath	5	0	0
Mr. G. Freeman	5	0	0
Mrs. Hepburn	5	0	0
Mr. F. Hills	5	0	0
Geo. Moore, Esq.	5	0	0
Mrs. Cox	5	0	0
Stephen Green, Esq.	5	0	0
James Benham, Esq.	5	0	0
Mr. Josh. Warington	5	0	0
Rev. W. Brock	5	0	0
Frederick Benham, Esq.	5	0	0

Further donations will be thankfully received by the Treasurers, W. B. Gurney, Esq., S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P.; or by the Secretary, Rev. J. Angus, M.A., 33, Moorgate-street.

W. B. GURNEY, } Treasurers.
S. M. PETO, }
JOSEPH ANGUS, Secretary.

April 28, 1848.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SAILORS' SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this SOCIETY will be held (D.V.) at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, on MONDAY EVENING, MAY 8, at Half-past six o'clock.

The Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR, in the Chair.

EDWARD CURZON, Secretary.

Offices, 2, Jeffrey-square, St. Mary Axe.

THE MAY MEETINGS.

THE BRITISH BANNER, for WEDNESDAY, MAY 17th, will contain a faithful and well-digested REPORT of the ANNIVERSARY MEETINGS of the great Religious and Benevolent Institutions held up to that time.

The BANNER will thus give at one view an account of the whole of the Missionary and other Benevolent operations of the Christian Church, without regard to denominational distinctions, omitting nothing that may be either interesting or important to be known.

Published at 5, Bolt-court, Fleet-street. A copy forwarded, per post, on the receipt of four penny stamps, addressed to the Publisher of the BANNER.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF ENGLAND AND WALES, BRITISH MISSIONS, AND BOARD FOR GENERAL EDUCATION.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY of the UNION.—All MEETINGS connected therewith.

MONDAY, 8th of MAY.—At TWO o'clock, Meeting of Distributors of Fund in Aid of AGED MINISTERS in the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY.

At FOUR o'clock, Preliminary Meeting of the MEMBERS of the ANNUAL ASSEMBLY, in the Same Place.

At SEVEN o'clock, Sermon by BRITISH MISSIONS, in the POULTRY CHAPEL, by the Rev. R. HALLEY, D.D., of Manchester.

TUESDAY, 9th of MAY.—At Half-past NINE o'clock, FIRST SESSION of the EIGHTEENTH ASSEMBLY of the UNION, in CROSBY-HALL, Bishopsgate-street. The Rev. THOMAS BINNEY will be nominated for the Chair.

At SIX o'clock, FIRST UNITED ANNUAL MEETING for BRITISH MISSIONS, in EXETER-HALL; Mr. Alderman CHALLIS in the Chair.

FRIDAY, 12th of MAY.—At Half-past NINE, FIRST ADJOURNED SESSION of the ASSEMBLY of the UNION, in CROSBY-HALL; to be occupied with Conference and Education.

At THREE o'clock, DINNER in FREEMASONS'-HALL, Great Queen-street; and at SIX o'clock, Public Meeting for GENERAL EDUCATION, in the Same Place—EDWARD BAINES, jun., Esq., of Leeds, in the Chair.

SATURDAY, 13th of MAY.—At Half-past NINE o'clock, SECOND ADJOURNED SESSION of the ASSEMBLY of the UNION, in the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY.

JAMES WILLIAM MASSIE, D.D., } Secs.
THOMAS JAMES,
ALGERNON WELLS,

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.

THE FORTY-THIRD GENERAL MEETING of this Society, held in pursuance of Rule VII., to receive the Report of the Committee and the Treasurer's Financial Statement, and to elect the Officers and Committee for the year ensuing, will take place at the SOCIETY'S HOUSE, BORO'-ROAD, on Friday, May 5th, 1848, at ONE o'clock precisely.

Members* and Life Governors may obtain Tickets (not transferable) on application to the Secretary, at the Institution.

PUBLIC MEETING IN EXETER HALL.

The GENERAL MEETING of the SUBSCRIBERS and FRIENDS will be held, as usual, in EXETER-HALL, STRAND, on Monday, May 8th, 1848. The Chair will be taken by the Right Hon. VISCOUNT MOUNTBATTEN, M.P. and V.P., at TWELVE o'clock precisely.

Platform Tickets (not transferable) will be issued to the Secretaries and Treasurers of Local Schools, to Ministers, and to the leading Friends of the Society, on application at the Society's House, during the preceding week.

Central Seat Tickets will be furnished on application to all Subscribers, either to the Parent Society, or to any of its Auxiliaries.

Tickets for the Body of the Hall may be had, as heretofore, of Messrs. Yorke Clarke and Co., 55, Gracechurch-street; Messrs. Nisbet and Co., Berners-street; Messrs. Bagster's, 15, Paternoster-row; Mr. Davis, Sunday-school Union Depository, 60, Paternoster-row; Messrs. Miller and Field, 6, Bridge-road, Lambeth; and at the Society's House, Borough-road.

HENRY DUNN, Secretary.

*Every person subscribing annually One Guinea and upwards shall be deemed a Member of this Institution during the continuance of such subscription.—Rule 5.

PSALMODY.—THE SECOND AGGREGATE MEETING of the Rev. J. J. WAITE'S CLASSES will be held at EXETER-HALL, on WEDNESDAY Evening, MAY 10, at Half-past SIX o'clock.

Books of Admission, One Shilling each, may be obtained by members of the classes in the vestries of the several chapels where they have met, and of

Mr. Unwin, 31, Bucklersbury;
Mr. Surman, 9, Exeter-hall;
Mr. B. L. Green, 62, Paternoster-row;
Mr. Archer, 45, Goodge-street, Tottenham-court-road.

A limited number of Tickets will be issued to non-Members, which can only be obtained of Mr. W. H. Archer, 45, Goodge-street, and Mr. J. Surman, 9, Exeter-hall.

Ministers desirous of attending will be furnished with a card of admission on application to the manager.

T. E. THORESBY, } Secretaries.
J. S. EASTMEAD, }
JAMES HALLEWELL, Manager,
45, Goodge-street, Tottenham-court-road.

CROSBY-HALL, BISHOPSGATE-STREET.

MESMERISM.—SPENCER T. HALL respectfully announces to those who wish to judge of Mesmerism for themselves, that he intends to deliver a COURSE of FOUR LECTURES, with Experiments illustrative of the ascertained Facts of Mesmerism, at CROSBY-HALL, Bishopsgate-street, this Evening, May 3rd, Friday the 5th, Wednesday the 10th, and Friday the 11th of May, commencing at half-past Seven.—Admission to each Lecture: Front Seats, 2s. 6d.; Family Ticket, to admit Five, 10s. Second Seats, 1s.—Prospectuses and Tickets to be had at Crosby-hall; Charles Gilpin, Publisher, 5, Bishopsgate-street; Balliere, 219, Regent-street; George Sedgwick, Bookseller, Moorgate-street; and William Newberry, Bookseller, 4, King-street, Holborn.

SEND EIGHT POSTAGE STAMPS, and by return, and post free, you will get a hand-ome TEASPOON of WATSON'S solid ALBATA PLATE, which is rapidly superseding silver for all domestic uses. It is equally sweet and handsome as silver itself. This is the only solid substitute now sold, and unlike plated goods of any kind, there is nothing to wear off; so that the more you rub and clean it the better it will continue to look, though in daily use for fifty years. Don't be afraid to put it to any test, and then send your order. A full catalogue of prices, with patterns of every other article manufactured from this beautiful metal, will be enclosed with the sample spoon. Address C. Watson, 41 and 42 Barbican, corner of Priests'-street, and 16, Norton-folgate.

RAMSGATE.

MODERN HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE—CHOICE PAINTINGS—ORIENTAL, AND DRESDEN CHINA—VALUABLE BRACKET AND CARRIAGE CLOCKS—TWENTY DOZEN OF VERY SUPERIOR SHERRY, &c., &c.

EDEN-HOUSE, RAMSGATE-VALE.

G. M. HINDS has been honoured with instructions to submit the valuable effects on the above premises for Sale by AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, the 10th and 11th of MAY, 1848, at Ten o'clock in the Forenoon of each day: comprising, in Furniture, handsome mahogany and rosewood pillar and block loo, library, card, dining, work, and toilette Tables; Mahogany Sofas, in hair seating, with Sets of Chairs to correspond; Circular and Cabinet Chests of Drawers; elegant Wardrobe, with wings; Easy Chairs, Pedestal Sideboard, Chiffonnières, Large Chimney and Dressing Glasses, Brussels Carpeting, &c. &c. The China and Glass is in profusion, and of great beauty, combining utility with ornament. Among the Miscellaneous are valuable Bracket and Carriage Clocks; first-rate Percussion Gun, by Deane; superior Microscope, various Busts and Articles of Virtu. The Paintings have been judiciously collected through many years, and contain among them some choice Specimens of eminent Ancient and Modern Masters; they are in fine preservation, and richly framed. The Wine is of exquisite flavour, having been even years in wood and about four years in bottle.

May be viewed two days prior to the Sale, from ten to four o'clock, by Catalogues only (6d. each), which, with further particulars, may be had at the Office of the Auctioneer, 37, Queen-street, Ramsgate. The Paintings and Wine to be sold on the Second Day.

THE HOUSE TO BE LET, UNFURNISHED.

THE TEA ESTABLISHMENT,

4 and 5, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY.

CIRCULAR FOR APRIL, 1848.

IN our JANUARY CIRCULAR, we had to notice a depression of prices unprecedented in the Tea Trade. We were then of opinion Teas had seen their lowest price. With the new year we fully expected, from the removal of the monetary pressure previously existing, that an enhanced value would be obtained by the importers. Our prediction has not been verified; the uncertainty attending the development of the financial measures of the Government at the commencement of the year, and the unsettled state of political affairs, subsequently, both in China and throughout Europe, have had the effect of checking enterprise and retarding commerce, so that the common descriptions of Tea are even lower now than in January.

Within the last fortnight, common Congous have been sold as low as 7d. to 7½d. per lb. in bond, and Congous possessing much strength and Souchong flavour, from 9½d. to 11d. per lb. We are now selling a really useful Congou at 3s. per lb., and we confidently recommend the Strong Congou at 3s. 4d. per lb., as possessing almost every requisite for domestic purposes. The quality of the Fine Congou we are now selling at 4s. per lb., is superior to any ever before offered to the public at the price; in fact, few families require a better Tea; the Fine Hyson at 4s., the Superfine Hyson at 5s. 4d., and the Fine Gunpowder at 5s. per lb., are well worthy of attention. Our system of business has been so long known, that it is almost unnecessary to state that we never recommend any article unless the quality is such as to justify us in doing so. The quotation of low prices to articles, the quality of which will not bear out the description, is a mere deception, and only tends to disappoint the purchaser.

The Finest Black and Green Teas are rather dearer, from the scarcity of these descriptions, but our prices remain unaltered; the market price of the Finest Souchong varies from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per lb. in bond, the cost of the Finest with the duty of 2s. 2½d. added, is therefore 5s. 2½d. per lb. Thus it will be seen that, notwithstanding the depression, Teas of the highest quality, imported only in small quantities, still command a full price.

The Coffee Market has been well supplied with every description, and prices are lower than at any former period; Fine Mocha is now only 1s. 6d., the Finest Old Mocha, very choice, 1s. 8d., and all other kinds we are now selling at a proportionate reduction. Good Plantation Coffee is now only 1s. per lb.; this we strongly recommend for family use. Sound common Coffee, 9d. to 10d.

RIDGWAY and COMPANY, 4 and 5, King William-street, City.

DEANE'S DOMESTIC BATHS. The approach of spring, after a long wet winter, and when every one almost suffers from the effects of that epidemic which has prevailed so much, and so fatally, renders it desirable that all should at once resort to Cold Water Bathing. Deane's Bath Department is now replete with every novelty, and every description of Bath, whether new or old, which renders the operation easy and agreeable. As a guide to it, secure Deane's Pamphlet on the subject of Baths and Bathing, which is just published, and may be obtained at their warehouses, or of their Carls, which are daily in all parts of the metropolis. Baths repaired or lent on hire at the lowest possible charges. Baths delivered and put up within ten miles of London-bridge free of charge. GEORGE and JOHN DEANE, Shower, Sitz, Plunging, Sponge, Omni-directive, Hand-shower, &c., &c. Bath Manufacturers, opening to the Monument, 46, KING WILLIAM-STREET, LONDON-BRIDGE.

FURNITURE and BEDDING.—Carriage Free.

—Those about to furnish are offered very considerable advantages, in quality and price, at SMITH'S FURNITURE and BEDDING FACTORY, No. 28, Bagnigge-wells-road, next door to Clerkenwell police-court, where you can furnish a bedroom complete for nine guineas, a four-roomed cottage comfortably, including fenders and fire-irons, for £23; a six-roomed house, in modern style, for £70; an eight-roomed house for £140; and a mansion of any magnitude, or a single room, or a single article, upon the same reasonable scale. Special estimates furnished without charge; all goods delivered carriage free. Priced lists of furniture, containing designs, classed and adapted, from the cottage to the mansion, postage free. Superior Brussels Carpet, 2s. 10d. per yard.

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, FOR MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE, ANNUITIES, RE- VERSIONS, &c.

THIS OFFICE was established in 1837, to afford the advantages of Mutual Assurance by very moderate Premiums. These will be found, at early and middle ages, about 20 per cent. below those of most similar offices.

Healthy Persons may ASSURE THEIR LIVES at the smallest yearly cost; with a prospect of sharing in the Entire Reserved Profits. The subjoined Table shows the very moderate Annual Payments required, at various ages, to assure £100 at death, whenever death shall happen, after the first annual payment. The small amount of weekly saving required for each Annual Payment proves the facility with which, by an exercise of the most trifling economy, the advantages of Life Assurance may be enjoyed by all.

Specimen of Scottish Provident Premiums for Whole Life.

Age next Birthday.	To Assure £100.		Age next Birthday.	To Assure £100.		Age next Birthday.	To Assure £100.	
	Weekly Cost.	Annual Premium.		Weekly Cost.	Annual Premium.		Weekly Cost.	Annual Premium.
21	8½d.	1 17 7	32	10d.	2 3 5	40	12½d.	2 14 9
26	9	1 18 6	34	10½	2 5 7	42	13½	2 18 8
28	9½	1 19 11	36	11	2 8 2	44	14½	3 3 3
30	9½	2 1 6	38	12	2 11 3	46	16	3 8 5

Specimen of Scottish Provident Premiums, payable during Twenty-one Years only, to Assure £100.

Age.	Premiums.	Age.	Premiums.	Age.	Premiums.
20	£2 7 10	30	£2 14 6	40	£3 6 4
25	2 10 8	35	2 19 8	45	3 14 9

By this scale a person of 30 may secure £100 at death, for a yearly payment of £2 14s. 6d., to cease on his attaining 50; being thus entirely relieved of payment before he has passed the prime of life, and that for nearly the same premium as most offices require for the whole of life.

Reports, Tables, and every information may be had of the Secretaries.

Edinburgh Office—14, St. Andrew's-square.
London Office—12, Moorgate-street.

WILMER OWEN HARRIS,
Agent and Secretary.

TEMPERANCE and GENERAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, FOR MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE, ANNUITIES, &c. 39, MOORGATE-STREET, LONDON.

Enrolled under Act of Parliament.

TRUSTEES.

Robert Warner, Esq. Richard Barrett, Jun., Esq.
Rev. W. R. Baker. Edward Webb, Esq.

SECRETARY.

Theodore Compton, Esq.

BANKERS.

Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co.

Lower Premiums than in most Mutual Offices; thus securing an immediate Bonus of £100 to £100 on every £1,000 assured. THE WHOLE PROFITS ARE DIVIDED AMONG THE ASSURED.

Every Assurer is a Member, and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Members can secure their benefits to their families, or any other persons, Free of Duty, by simply registering the names in the Books of the Society.

Persons abstaining from Alcoholic Beverages are assured in a distinct section, free from any possible losses through Intemperance.

The Society is now issuing Sixty Policies per month. Prospectuses sent free to any address.

THE LIVERPOOL and LONDON FIRE and LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Established in 1826. Empowered by Acts of Parliament.

TRUSTEES.

Sir Thomas Branker,
Adam Hodgson, Esq.,
William Potter, Esq.

Offices in Liverpool—No. 8, Water-street.

DIRECTORS.

William Earle, Esq., Chairman.
William Dixon, Esq., William Nicol, Esq., Deputy Chairmen.
Swinton Boulton, Esq., Secretary.

Offices in London—3, Charlotte-row, Mansion-house, and 28, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.

DIRECTORS.

William Ewart, Esq., M.P., Chairman.
George Frederick Young, Esq., Deputy Chairman.
Frederick Chincock, Esq., Manager of West-end Office.

Offices in Edinburgh—29, Northumberland-street;
Agents, Messrs. Mackenzie and Todd.

Offices in Dublin—45, Dame-street;
Agents, Messrs. Smyth and Du Bédats.

THE AMOUNT OF CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED EXCEEDS £1,500,000. At the commencement of 1848, the Reserved and Guaranteed Funds were together £160,487 19s. 3d. The liability of the proprietors is unlimited.

THE FIRE BUSINESS HAS STEADILY INCREASED YEAR BY YEAR. The duty paid to Government in 1836 was £3,414; in 1846 it reached £12,362. The Premiums are moderate; the settlement of claims liberal and prompt. Insurances are effected in the British Colonies and in foreign countries, as well as throughout the United Kingdom.

IN THE LIFE DEPARTMENT, SIMPLICITY, CERTAINTY, and LARGE GUARANTEED BONUSES, involving no liability of partnership, with very reasonable premiums, are characteristics of the Company. The amount of Insurances effected in 1847 was 124,878.

CAPITAL SUMS, PAYABLE ON A FIXED FUTURE DAY, giving to property held under Lease for years certain, the same value as if it were freehold, are insured by the Company. Policies of this description are available for many other purposes as well.

Full prospectuses may be had on application at the Offices of Agencies, and every facility and despatch will be afforded to persons desirous of negotiating business.

Applications for Agencies accompanied with unexceptionable references may be addressed to the Offices of the Company in either Liverpool or London.

SWINTON BOULTON,
Secretary to the Company.

March 22, 1848.

COALS.—CUNDELL and COCKERELL assure those who honour them with their patronage, that they still continue to sell none but the BEST WALL'S END COALS; and the extensive share of public favour which it has been their good fortune to experience, is a powerful incitement to them not to deviate from a principle and practice which have not only advantages to themselves, but which, they have substantial reasons for believing, have been highly satisfactory to those who have favoured them with their commands. Presently deducting the usual discount for cash, 4½s. per ton. **ST. WHARF, EARL-STREET, BLACKFRIARS.**

THE LONDON ASSURANCE CORPORATION, by Charter of King George the First, for LIFE, FIRE, and MARINE ASSURANCE, granted their first Life Policy on the 7th June, 1721.

Their new Prospectus embraces a variety of very eligible plans for Life Assurance at moderate premiums.

Two-thirds of the gross profits are awarded to the assured by a bonus added to the policy—a payment in cash—a new policy without premium, or by a reduction of the future annual premium.

The expenses of managing the Life Department are not, as is usual, taken from the premium fund, but are defrayed by the Corporation out of their share of the profits, thus giving the assured all the advantages of Mutual Assurance, and the security of an ancient and opulent Corporation.

Assurances without participation, and short period assurances, are effected on very advantageous terms.

Parties proceeding abroad are liberally treated. Fire Insurances on every description of property at moderate rates, and Marine Assurance at the current premiums.

Prospectuses may be had at their offices, 7, Royal Exchange, Cornhill, and 10, Regent-street; or sent free on a written application.

JOHN LAURENCE, Secretary.

SILVER and ELECTRO PLATE SUPERSEDED BY RICHARD and JOHN SLACK'S CHEMICALLY PURIFIED NICKEL SILVER.

A GOOD substitute for SILVER has long been sought after, and numerous have been the attempts to produce a perfect metal that will retain its colour when in use. How fruitless the attempts have been the public know too well from the fact that all their purchases have, after a few days' wear, exhibited a colour little better than brass. The very severe tests that have been applied to our metal, (which in all cases it has withstood,) at once places it pre-eminent above all others, and from its silver-like appearance, its intrinsic and valuable properties, gives us confidence in asserting that it is and must remain, the ONLY PURE AND PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.

King's and Strongest Thread Victoria Fiddle Patterns. Fiddle. Pattern. Pattern.

Table Spoons & Forks, per dozen 12s. and 15s. 19s. 28s. 30s.
Dessert do. and do. 10s. and 13s. 16s. 21s. 25s.
Tea ditto 5s. and 6s. 8s. 11s. 12s.

Cruet Frames with rich Cut Glasses, from 22s.
Table Candlesticks, 12s. per pair.

Tea Sets, and every article for the Table, at proportionate prices.

R. and J. S. beg to caution the public against several spurious imitations of their articles, which are daily offered to the public as Albata British Plate. The genuine are to be had only at their establishment, 336, STRAND, opposite Somerset House, where no inferior goods are kept.

FENDERS, FIRE IRONS, &c.

RICHARD and JOHN SLACK are now offering the most extensive and elegant assortment of Fenders in London, embracing the newest designs, at prices under 30 per cent. under any other house. Ornamental Iron Fenders, 3 feet long, 4s. 6d.; 3 feet 6 inches, 5s. 3d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto, bronzed, from 6s.; Bed-room Fenders, from 2s. 6d.; rich Scroll Fenders, with Steel Spear, any size, from 10s. Chamber Fire Irons, 1s. 9d. per set; Parlour ditto, 3s. 6d.; superior ditto, with cut head and bright pans, from 6s. 6d.; new patterns, with bronzed head, 11s.; ditto, with ormolu and China heads, at proportionate prices.

BALANCE IVORY TABLE KNIVES, 10s. per dozen; Dessert ditto, 9s.; carvers, 3s. 6d. per pair. White Bone Table knives, 6s.; Dessert ditto, 4s.; Carvers, 2s. per pair. Superior Kitchen Table Knives and Forks, from 6s. 6d. per dozen. Table Knives, with pure Nickel Silver, Tables, 22s. per dozen; Dessert ditto, 18s.; Carvers, 6s. 6d. per pair, all marked RICHARD and JOHN SLACK, and warranted.

A SET OF THREE FULL-SIZED TEA TRAYS, 6s. 6d.; superior Japan Gothic ditto, 13s. 6d.; Gothic paper ditto, 33s. Patent Dish Covers, set of six for 17s. Roasting Jack, complete, 7s. 6d.; Brass ditto, 9s. 6d. Coal Scuttles, from 1s. 6d.; and every description of Furnishing Ironmongery 30 per cent. under any other house.

SHOWER BATHS, WITH CURTAINS, 9s.

RICHARD and JOHN SLACK, in submitting the above prices, beg it to be understood, it is for articles of the best quality only.

The extensive patronage their establishment has received during a period of nearly thirty years (1818), will be some proof the public have not been deceived; but as a further guarantee, they will continue to exchange any article not approved of, or return the money, it being their intention to sell only such articles as will do them credit, and give satisfaction by their durability.

RICHARD and JOHN SLACK, 336, Strand, opposite Somerset House.

Their Illustrated Catalogue may be had gratis, or sent to any part post free.

ESTABLISHED 1818.

The Money returned for every Article not approved of.

RESTORATION OF THE HAIR.—To Messrs. A. Rowland and Sons, 20, Hatton-garden, London.

Gentlemen,—A striking instance of the efficacy of your Macassar Oil in the restoration of the hair has just come under my notice. The person alluded to is a young man named Haylock, of Ashdon, near this place, whose entire head of hair came off by some unaccountable means. He purchased of me several different popular preparations, which he regularly and faithfully used, but without effecting the least apparent change. At last I advised him to try a bottle of your Macassar Oil; and, on Friday last, he communicated to me the pleasing intelligence of the reappearance of a thick head of hair. You can make what use you please of this, and refer inquirers to Yours respectfully,
J. SERGEANT, Bookseller, &c.

Price 3s. 6d.—7s.—Family bottles (equal to four small), 10s. 6d., and double that size, 21s. per bottle.

Each bottle of their genuine article has the words ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL, Engraved in two lines on the wrapper; and on the back of the wrapper nearly 1,500 times, containing 29,038 letters. Sold by them and by all Chemists and Perfumers. Beware of spurious "Macassar Oils." Some are offered under the implied sanction of Royalty, and the Government Departments, and similar attempts at deception.

THE TEETH.

MR. CLARKE, Surgeon-Dentist, late Assistant to Mr. Samuel Cartwright (now retired), continues to Fix Mineral, Natural, or Artificial Teeth, from a Single Tooth to a Complete Set, guaranteed to answer all the purposes for which they are intended, at little more than half Mr. Cartwright's charges. It is a well-known fact, that rude and unskillful attempts daily practised in the profession deter thousands from wearing artificial teeth, who might, by employing a skillful dentist, be enjoying all the comforts of mastication. Tender and Decayed Teeth restored by Mr. Clarke's Anodyne Cement, after which, any tooth may be permanently stopped with gold, and render extraction seldom necessary. Mr. Clarke's brother, Mr. E. Clarke, from 19, Old Stein, Brighton, may be consulted in town as usual every Saturday, from 11 to 6 o'clock.

12, SACKVILLE-STREET, PICCADILLY.

SNOWDEN'S PATENT PURIFIED and DRESSED COFFEE, rendered more wholesome for use.

A very important improvement in the article of Coffee having been discovered by us, for which discovery we have obtained her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent, we submit the principle to your attention.

The process of dressing we cannot urge too strongly on your notice, as this is one of the most important parts of our invention. After the Coffee is purified and roasted, it passes into a Cracking or Crushing Apparatus; from thence it goes into our Patent Dressing Machine, by which means we entirely remove from the internal part of the Coffee all that Fibre, or Pith, encircling the heart of the Berry, which may be easily seen by breaking it between the finger and thumb and examining it. This Fibre, or Pith, has always, up to the time of our Patent, been ground up with the Coffee, and, when ground, being in such fine particles, and of a light, floating tendency, is the great cause of the difficulty of sifting or clarifying it.

We have submitted our Coffee to some of the most eminent Analytical Chemists of the Metropolis, who assert that we remove the great obstacle of sifting or clarifying, and that what we do remove is injurious, more particularly to persons with weak stomachs.

The following testimonial is from Dr. Ure, the celebrated Professor of Chemistry:—

"24, Bloomsbury-square, London, Nov. 27th, 1847.

"Having carefully examined the Patent of Mr. Robert Snowden, for improvements in treating and dressing Coffee, I have much pleasure in expressing my highest approbation of it. He, first of all, purifies the berry, then roasts it slightly, so as to detach the coarse, fibrous pellicles from its surface, also the chaffy pith of the centre, commonly called the wing, a light, tough fibre, which, after grinding, is apt to pass through the filter, and cannot be separated by sifting, but, when swallowed, creates irritation of the gullet and stomach. The removal of this pith is a most valuable part of this invention, and, joined to his other improvements, will enable Mr. Snowden to produce from average berries a wholesomer and more delicious Coffee than any now in the market.

"ANDREW URE, M.D., F.R.S., &c.

"Professor of Chemistry, and Analytical Chemist."

This Coffee may be had in 3lb., 6lb., and 12lb. canisters in its dressed state, deprived of all its internal fibre, ready for grinding, or already ground for use, by addressing to the Patentees,

R. SNOWDEN and COMPANY,

Tea, Coffee, and Cocoa-dealers, City-road and East-road, London.

PRESENT CASH PRICES.

	s.	d.
Plantation, or Java	1	4
Costa Rica, or Jamaica	1	6
Old Mocha, or Turkey	1	8
Very choice Mocha (very little now in England) ..	2	0

COFFEE FOR INVALIDS.—All persons troubled with indigestion, weak stomachs, or consumptive habits, may drink SNOWDEN'S PATENT-DRESSED COFFEE, without suffering that irritation which coffee ground upon the common principle subjects them to. All fibre is removed from the internal part before grinding. See Dr. Ure's testimonial. Sold only in London by the patentees, R. SNOWDEN and CO., City-road, and East-road, London. Dressed or ground, 1s. 4d., 1s. 6d., 1s. 8d., and 2s. 2lb. sent to any part of the town. 12lb. sent to any part of the country.

PATENT DESICCATED COFFEE.

JOHN RELFE, No. 4, Gracechurch-street, begs to inform the Nobility and Gentry that he has succeeded in making arrangements with the PATENT DESICCATING COMPANY (Davison and Symington, Patentees), for roasting Coffee. This principle is perfectly novel, being effected entirely by hot air; and has the peculiar advantage of improving the article both in colour, strength, and quality, preserving purity, richness of flavour, and all its aromatic qualities, whilst it excludes all burnt and acrid matter, which under the ordinary process invariably arises. It is recommended by the most eminent of the faculty, as being especially adapted to persons of weak digestive organs.

TESTIMONIALS.

"Apothecaries' Hall.

"Messrs. Davison and Symington.
"Gentlemen,—I have submitted the sample of coffee roasted by your improved process, left with me, to a careful chemical examination, and find it to be free from the strong, acrid, empyreumatic oil which gives to coffee, as ordinarily prepared, so much of its unpleasant flavour; and, doubtless, also its injurious effects on many constitutions; at the same time that it possesses all the fine aromatic properties unimpaired. It is also much more evenly roasted throughout its substance, and I consider a very great improvement on the old process.
"I remain, gentlemen, yours respectfully,
"R. WARRINGTON, Chemical Operator."

"5, Old Burlington-street.

"Dear Sir,—I have been lately using the coffee which you sent me, prepared according to your invention, and I am of opinion that it is softer, is better flavoured, and is better suited to persons whose digestive organs are weak; and hence, that it is more wholesome than coffee which is roasted in the usual way, and which is often burnt or acrid.
"I am, dear sir, yours truly,
"To R. Davison, Esq. JAMES COPLAND, M.D."

ROCHE'S HERBAL EMBROCATION,

An Effectual Cure for the Hooping Cough, without Internal Medicine.

THIS is the only discovery affording a perfect cure, without administering internal Medicine, the difficulty and inconvenience of which, in all disorders particularly incident to children, are too well known to need any comment. The Inventor and Proprietor of this Embrocation can with pleasure and satisfaction declare, that its salutary effects have been so universally experienced, and so generally acknowledged, that many of the most eminent of the Faculty now constantly recommend it as the only known safe and perfect cure, without restriction of diet or use of medicine.

Many thousands of children are cured annually by this remedy; on the first attack, an immediate application of the EMBROCATION will prevent the complaint taking any hold of the constitution, and a few times using often completely cures. In most cases, one bottle will produce the best effect. The Proprietor therefore earnestly and conscientiously recommends it to Parents, Guardians, and all those who have the care of children.

For the protection of the public, and to prevent imposition, "J. ROCHE" is signed on the label accompanying each bottle, and the name of the sole Wholesale Agent, Mr. Edwards, 67, St. Paul's, engraved on the Government Stamp. Price 4s. per bottle. Sold by Edwards, 67, St. Paul's Churchyard, London; Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; and by most respectable chemists.

A NEW DISCOVERY in TEETH.—MR. HOWARD, Surgeon-Dentist, 52, Fleet-street, has introduced an entirely new description of artificial teeth, fixed without springs, wires, or ligatures. They so perfectly resemble the natural teeth as not to be distinguished from the originals by the closest observer; they will never change colour or decay, and will be found very superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots or any painful operation, and will support and preserve teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication; and that Mr. Howard's improvement may be within reach of the most economical, he has fixed his charges at the lowest scale possible. Decayed teeth rendered sound and useful in mastication.—52, FLEET-STREET.

At home from Ten till Five.



THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. VIII.—NEW SERIES, NO. 129.]

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ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

THE BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

We think ourselves entitled to some credit, and shall take it accordingly, for having magnanimously refrained from boring our readers with editorial remarks, explanatory, argumentative, eulogistic, or hortatory, on the above-named organization. For the most part, we have contented ourselves with reporting its proceedings, and have left our friends to gather thence their own conclusions. We have done this advisedly. We would not quicken or nourish either in our own minds, or in the minds of others, an attachment to institutions which is due only to the principles they embody. We hope we know the difference in value between husk and kernel. Hence, we have studiously and uniformly made it our aim, to supply varied illustrations of the truth which the British Anti-state-church Association seeks to diffuse, and to point attention to the numerous evils which flow from a practical violation of it, rather than to draw notice to the Society itself. We hoped by this means to ensure for it, in the long run, supposing it to be in reality what it is in profession, a more intelligent, conscientious, and abiding support, than could have been gained by the adoption of a more direct course. And, so far as our own labours can be supposed to have told upon the progress of the Association, we have our reward. Never, perhaps, did an organization take firmer hold upon the hearts of its friends, and never did those who take an interest in it, do so more exclusively from simple appreciation of the object it proposes.

The reserve, however, which we have so long maintained, has its proper limits. Like all other things good in themselves it may be overdone. There is a time to speak, as well as a time to be silent; and true discretion will ascertain both. The present moment appears to us to be a fitting one for speech. The Council of the British Anti-state-church Association met yesterday, to conduct it with due deliberation into the fifth year of its labours. Why should we preclude ourselves from greeting the child of our own thoughts, anxieties, and hopes, on the return of its birthday? What should hinder us from tendering it our congratulations, and imprinting a kiss of fondness upon its forehead? The season invites us to this natural indulgence of our emotions, and rigid etiquette shall not prevent us from availing ourselves of the invitation.

Let us recall the circumstances of its birth. They were not flattering. The child itself was a goodly child, but its entrance into the world was not very warmly welcomed. Its first cry of life worried Dissenting bachelorship—self-caring, self-indulging, self-absorbed nonconformity—into testy impatience. It would bring with it, many said, nothing but annoyance and confusion. It would die in infancy of spasmodic convulsion; or if, perchance, it lived, it would grow up a brawler. It was ugly as sin. It was unlovely in spirit. It had sprung from a bad stock. Gloster's description of

himself was thought to present the very semblance of it:—

"I, that am rudely stamp'd, and want love's majesty,
Cheated of feature by dissembling nature,
Deform'd, unfinish'd, sent before my time
Into this breathing world, scarce half made-up,
And that so lamely and unfashionable,
That dogs bark at me, as I halt by them."

Yes! there was an all but universal disclaiming of the lusty youngster. Leading men frowned upon it. Bankers declined its accounts. Trustees shut the doors of public buildings against it. It was preached at—laughed at—whispered at. They who patronized it were marked men—men to be noted as common disturbers. Well! the Association lived on—aye! grew—profoundly indifferent to all the pother it excited—and now, they who railed at it most loudly, and predicted its character and decease most confidently, are not half so ashamed of the Association as they are of their unmanly attacks upon its infancy, and have no stronger desire concerning their predictions, than that they may be completely forgotten. Prejudice never more outrageously overlept itself.

It is not our purpose to trace the Association through its early history of neglect, obloquy, difficulty, danger, or labour—nor to review the feelings of the few men who, chained to the oars, toiled on, cheerily or sadly, in all weathers—nor to recount their disappointments, nor to celebrate their triumphs. Our immediate object is to refer to one or two features in the career of this organization which merit for it, we think, the confidence and support of all who sincerely desire the end which it seeks to bring about. The truth of our observations may be tested by any one who chooses to consult the Society's reports and publications, or who keeps his eyes open to what is passing around him.

The simple grandeur of its object, and the uncompromising fidelity with which it has been adhered to, claim from us, in the first place, a few words of notice. The Association defined clearly, at its outset, the object at which it professed to aim—and that object was commensurate with the entire breadth of the principle upon which it was founded. It meant all that truth demanded of it, and it openly avowed all that it meant. The very title which it assumed, and which it still retains, speaks the sincerity and completeness of its purpose. Great as that purpose is, we can detect no symptom of a disposition to swerve from it. Every thing said and done, looks directly and exclusively to the final goal. We see no starting away upon minor pursuits—no encouragement held out to agitate for a "redress of grievances"—no softening down of colours to suit the undecided and the timid—no veiling of truth lest aristocracy should be scared by the severe dignity of its expression. The Society from the first has been intelligible, honest, and straightforward. None can mistake it but those who are too prejudiced to listen, or too indolent to inquire. And as it started, so it proceeds—too much in earnest to conceal, too intent upon its object to compromise or truckle. This, as the world goes, is no mean recommendation of its claims.

Allied to this resolute and inflexible adherence to principle, we may challenge for the Association a uniform calmness, moderation, and even courteousness of tone, in the advocacy of it, not unworthy—and that is saying much—of the great end pursued. In this respect it has greatly belied the prophesying assailants of its earlier days. Several writers have contributed to its published works—gentlemen with different temperaments, habits of thought, and style of expression. Let now the most enthusiastic votary of the Evangelical Alliance turn, if he can, to a single passage the spirit of which violates the charity of the gospel. Oral addresses may not be able to stand so severe a test, but even as to these the British Anti-state-church Association will safely bear comparison with any society, living or defunct, about the main object of which there is any marked difference of opinion or feeling. The career of the Association has been closely watched by not a few avowedly unfriendly to its claims; and that it has not greatly

sinned against propriety their silence is sufficient proof. Substantially, we think, it has conformed to the apostolic injunction by setting forth "the truth in love."

We turn now to another feature of this organization, and point attention for a moment to its financial history. The first thing that strikes us is, that its annual income, although confessedly small as yet, exhibits a uniform increase, the past year of unexampled commercial embarrassment not excepted. In this simple fact we recognise evidence of vitality and growth. But there is more than this. The Association has kept its expenditure within its income, and, unlike many others, is free from debt. Not quite so hare-brained as some men would represent it—or, if mad, it has some method in its madness! What has been the secret of this?—sheer economy, and an honest determination to prevent all under-drains upon the funds. The Executive Committee have gone about their work with a solemn feeling of responsibility, resolved to make their resources go as far as possible, and to limit their operations by their assets. Hence, during four years, they have kept their bark perfectly water-tight and in sailing trim.

And yet we appeal to our own pages, we appeal to the rapidly altering tone of public opinion, we appeal to almost every district of the country in which public meetings have been held or lectures delivered, in proof of the fact that the Association has not been inactive. Our columns contain the Committee's Report to the Council for the past year. Let the reader turn to it, and let him ask himself whether the ground covered by the Society's operations does not fully answer to the extent of its resources? How such an organization may be more efficiently worked at less expense the Executive Committee, we can answer for them, would be delighted to learn. At all events, we believe, they have done their utmost according to their measure of knowledge; and to their energy, self-denial, and perseverance, the present hopeful position of the Association is to be mainly attributed.

We have done. We had not, indeed, thought of being drawn out to such a length. But we have said nothing but what our conscience warrants—nothing which we cannot fully bear out by personal knowledge of facts. It is, in our sober judgment, a crying reproach to Dissenters that such an institution is not more warmly, more widely, and more liberally supported. That it will be we have not a doubt; but long delay takes off the grace of ultimate adherence, and many, we fear, having committed themselves against the Association, want the manliness to confess their mistake, and thus hinder a cause to which, in their inmost souls, they cannot but wish well.

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.

The annual meeting of the Council of the Anti-state-church Association, took place yesterday, for the transaction of business, at the offices of the Society in Warwick-square. There was a full attendance of members, and nearly all parts of the country were represented in the Council. Dr. Cox, of Hackney, presided. In consequence of the illness of the Secretary of the Association, (who has been confined to his bed for some days,) Mr. Hare readily and kindly accepted the invitation of the Committee to undertake his duties during the sitting of the Council. The resolutions which, after full discussion, were unanimously passed, have special reference to the recent developments of State interference with religion, which have contributed so powerfully to draw attention to the principle on which the Association is based, and may be fairly regarded as the expression of sentiments which are daily becoming more deeply and generally entertained. The Society, it will be seen, is now strong enough to determine on a more

aggressive course of action, and with a view to that, wishes to clear the way for a direct assault on the National Establishment itself. It has done so by a vigorous protest against the further bestowment of a grant to Protestant Dissenters, the acceptance of which, though *patry* in amount, compromises the entire dissenting body. In the discussion upon the resolutions referring to the colonial bearings of the question, facts illustrative of the insidious procedure of the government in ecclesiastical matters in our dependencies, were detailed by some speakers, which must awaken righteous indignation among an honourable people whose confidence has been so grossly abused. Let these resolutions be well weighed, and they must arouse the apathy from their indifference.

THE REPORT.

Gentlemen of the Council.—With devout thankfulness to the Head of the Church, without whose smile no human plans of usefulness can prosper, and with sanguine hopes that the enterprise upon which they are engaged is rapidly ripening for success, the Executive Committee hail another opportunity of laying before you a brief report of their proceedings during the year just past, and, in conformity with the constitution of the Association, of seeking the aid of your counsel for the year that is to come. The period of time which has elapsed since the Triennial Conference, held last May, has been distinguished by memorable events, each of which has had some influence upon the prospects of the British Anti-state-church Association. A general election, an unparalleled commercial crisis, and a series of revolutions on the continent, could not but affect, to some extent, the history of an organization whose object it is to accomplish so vast a change as the separation of the Church from the State. As yet, however, it still devolves upon the Executive Committee to set forth their work rather than its results, and to speak far more of labour than its reward. Signs of progress there are to cheer them—evidence enough that they are not wasting their strength upon what is unattainable—glimpses, now and then, of the certainty of success—but for the present, these are matters for silent observation, not for speech, and serve rather to encourage faithfulness, than to silence unbelief in our opponents.

The resolution passed by the Conference respecting the ground proper to be taken by consistent Nonconformist electors at the then impending General Election, produced, the Executive Committee have reason to believe, important and gratifying results. Followed up by the energetic action of the Dissenters' Electoral Committee, it influenced the conduct of a sufficient body of men to give an anti-state-church tone to the Election. If few candidates professing the fundamental principle of this Association were returned to Parliament, very many were driven into the necessity of looking at it, perhaps for the first time, and treating it with unwonted respect. The question was thus simultaneously agitated in all the more important boroughs of the kingdom; and public attention was attracted towards it at a time of excitement, when the ear is most open to novel or neglected truths. The consequence has been most beneficial. Friends have been confirmed—wavering have been fixed—opponents have been instructed. The movements carried on during the autumn of last year, and the spring of this, by the Executive Committee, have been much facilitated by the impulse given by the elections to popular opinion. The seed they have scattered has fallen upon a soil prepared for its reception, and promises, at no very distant period, an abundant harvest.

As soon as possible after the close of the electoral struggle, the Executive Committee proceeded to the duty devolved upon them by the Triennial Conference of selecting a stated Secretary. Having made such inquiries as they considered most likely to answer their purpose, their choice, after mature deliberation, fell upon Mr. John Carvell Williams, who entered upon his office in September. The Committee are happy in being able to add, that their further acquaintance with Mr. Williams has conducted them to the conclusion that their engagement of him as Secretary promises to be of great advantage to the Association. His energy and habits of business have enabled them to extend their operations very considerably during the past year.

A bare summary of these operations, Gentlemen of the Council, the Executive Committee now proceed to lay before you. They have consisted mainly in the oral exposition and enforcement of Anti-state-church principles, by means of public meetings and lectures, and in the organization of local committees throughout the country. The public meetings have been attended by deputations from the Executive Committee, and the lectures have been delivered, for the most part, by Mr. Kingsley.

Regarding the visits of deputations throughout the country as an essential means of awakening and sustaining an interest in the movement of the Association, the Executive Committee, in the autumn of last year, marked out such districts in England as might, in their judgment, be most conveniently and advantageously visited before the close of the following spring. They have great pleasure in reporting that this arduous and important work has proceeded without interruption, and is now advancing to completion. The extent of the ground which has been thus occupied will be best seen by an enumeration of the various towns arranged according to their several districts.—Yorkshire: Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield, Halifax, Doncaster, Wakefield, Barnsley, Sheffield (2), Dewsbury, Heckmondwike, York, Malton, Whitby, Scarborough, Hull, Beverley, Leeds (2).—Durham: Darlington, Sunderland, Stockton-on-Tees, Durham.—Northumberland: Newcastle-on-Tyne, Shields, Alnwick.—Lancaster: Manchester, Liverpool, Bolton, Rochdale, Oldham, Preston, Blackburn, Todmorden.—Cheshire: Stockport, Macclesfield.—Essex: Chelmsford, Coggeshall, Braintree, Halstead, Colchester, Witham, Billericay, Maldon, Walthamstow.—Norfolk and Suffolk: North Walsham, East Dereham, Lynn, Bury St. Edmunds, Norwich.—Western Counties: Exeter, Gloucester, Nailsworth, Stroud, Wotton, Bath, Bristol, Evesham, Moreton, Blockley, Winchcombe, Worcester, Shrewsbury, Bridgnorth.—Midland

Counties: Leicester, Harborough, Wellesborough.—Kent: Chatham, Gravesend, Maidstone.—London: At London Tavern, Finsbury Chapel, Eastern Institution, and Kingsland.—Southwark, Southampton, Aylesbury, Tooting, &c., &c.—Lectures by Mr. Burnet at Cambridge and Bradford (2).

Not confining themselves, however, to these localities, they have also complied with the pressing solicitations of friends in other parts of the country for similar deputations.

The total number of such meetings thus enumerated is about 100, but this does not include the whole of the Society's provincial efforts; inasmuch as local committees and individual friends have themselves arranged for lectures, or courses of lectures, as well as public meetings, and other similar movements; and, in addition to all this, the Rev. D. R. Stephen, of Manchester, devoted several weeks in the summer of last year, to the delivery of lectures in various towns in the southern districts of the Principality.

It had originally been intended that each series of meetings should be preceded by a conference in a central spot in the district; but distance and other difficulties rendered it impracticable to carry it completely into execution, and Newcastle and Braintree were the only places where such conferences have been held. To make arrangements for the visitation of the Midland Counties, it was thought desirable to convene a special conference at Leicester. Accordingly, on the 16th of March, about seventy gentlemen, comprising many of the founders of the Association, assembled in the lecture-room of Belvoir-street Chapel, the Rev. J. H. Hinton, M.A., and the Secretary, meeting them as a deputation from the Executive Committee. The deliberations which then took place, and the information elicited, were of a gratifying character, and will greatly assist the Committee in their movements in that locality.

It is an obvious remark on these proceedings, that they have been on a far larger scale than during any former year of the existence of this Association; while the reports which have reached the Committee furnish good ground for believing that they have not only effected their immediate object, but have also tended to inspire confidence in the organization itself, as adopting, with energy and skill, the means best suited for advancing the growth of those principles which it wishes to see triumphant.

Of the character of the public meetings, the Committee may report generally, that they have shown this question to be taking a deep and increasing hold upon the public mind. The audiences have been, in almost all cases, large and enthusiastic. Entire success has been the rule—failure, the rare exception. Every allusion made to the recent events in the Establishment has been caught up with a readiness and degree of interest which strongly indicates the significance which the public attach to them. In the north of England the meetings have been attended by large numbers of the working classes, who have entered warmly, and with interest, into the objects of the Association.

The services of Mr. Kingsley, the Society's lecturer, have also been in active requisition. In addition to attending as a member of the deputation in some of the districts already named, he has delivered lectures in Bedfordshire—Dunstable, Leighton, Luton; Buckinghamshire—Chalvey, Newport Pagnell; Essex—Braintree, Chelmsford, Dunmow, Felsted, Finchamfield, Stelbing, Weathersfield; Gloucestershire—Gloucester, Longhope, Sydney, Coleford, Woodside, Stanley, Stonehouse; Kent—Dover, Margate, Ramsgate; Lancashire—Blackburn, Chorley, Clitheroe, Colne, Darwen, Marsden, Middleton, Todmorden, Wigan; Northumberland and Durham—Hexham, Middlesborough, Morpeth, Shotley, Winton; Shropshire—Shrewsbury; Yorkshire—Bromley, Beverley, Boroughbridge, Driffield, Easingwold, Idle, Holmfirth, Hull, Howden, Knaresborough, Knottingley, Morley, Market Weighton, Northallerton, Hunslet, Holbeck, Ripon, Thirsk, York, Poekington.

The reception he has met with has been such as greatly to sustain him in his labours, the audiences being generally large and spirited. Usually discussion has been invited, and on three or four occasions clergymen thought proper to offer some vindication of their cherished system from the charges preferred against it.

The Committee, feeling themselves pledged to fulfil the engagements which had been publicly announced, thought it prudent to confine their operations in the metropolis within a narrower compass than on former occasions. In October last the public meeting usually held at that period of the year took place at the London Tavern, the Committee having been denied the use of Exeter-hall, for which they had applied. The large numbers who were then unable to gain admission satisfied them that it would be absolutely necessary to take steps for providing a more spacious place for their future meetings. In the absence of further public meetings, the Committee arranged a series of lectures to be delivered in the theatre of the City of London Literary Institution, on topics bearing on the more recent aspects of the Anti-state-church controversy. The subjects of the lectures which were delivered in March and April, with the names of the lecturers, were as follows:—"The present state of the Church Establishment illustrative of the Evils necessarily resulting from the Connexion of the Church with the State"—J. H. TILLET, Esq.; "The Endowment of all Religious Societies"—Rev. J. BURNET; "What is the Separation of Church and State?"—EDWARD MIAL, Esq.; "Church Property—whose is it?"—Rev. J. H. HINTON, M.A.; "The Duty of Christian Citizens in relation to Church Establishments"—Rev. J. P. MURSELL.

An earlier period had been named for the commencement of the course; but, on the eve of the usual announcement, being made, a course of lectures on Popular Education was announced by the Congregational Board of Education, to be delivered about the same time, and the Committee, anxious to afford every assistance to such a project, immediately postponed their own course. The lectures have, since their delivery, been published in a cheap form, as part of the series of tracts of the Association, and will, no doubt, have a very wide circulation.

The assembling of a new Parliament appearing to the Committee to afford a fitting opportunity for once more protesting against the annual grant to poor Protestant Dissenting ministers in England and Wales, they propose taking the requisite steps for raising a discussion, and obtaining a division, in the House of Commons, on both the English and Irish *Regium Donum*. They have, accordingly, forwarded communications to the various

bodies of Dissenters, informing them of their intention, and requesting their co-operation. From most of these cordial replies have been received. With a view, also, to furnish information to members of Parliament, and the public generally, on the working of the *Regium Donum* in Ireland, the Committee have published, as a tract, the Report of her Majesty's Commissioner, George Mathews, Esq., dated, Dublin Castle, June 28th, 1847—a document containing more decisive and startling evidence of the pernicious working of the system in Ireland than has ever yet been made public.

The best mode of so perfecting the organization of the Association, as to enable it to work most effectively throughout the entire kingdom, has, it will be remembered, been a frequent topic of discussion. The experience of four years has assured the Committee that the appointment of registrars is not, on the whole, the most expedient system; accordingly, they have recommended to their friends the formation of local committees, consisting of members of the Association, such committees being formed by the Executive Committee, and acting on rules laid down by them for their guidance. This arrangement is in no way intended to interfere with the employment of registrars in scattered districts, where the formation of local committees would be impossible. Committees have been already formed at Manchester, Darwen, Southampton, Portobello, Dalkeith, Musselburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Perth, Gloucester, Sheffield, Bradford, Stockton-on-Tees, Darlington, Beverley, Scarborough, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Alnwick, Birmingham, Leeds, York, Chatham, Holmfirth, Cambridge, Hull, Bristol, Liverpool, Rochdale, Blackburn, Bolton, Braintree, Maidstone, Leeds, Winton, Ebley, Margate, Falck, Stockport, Leicester, Kidderminster, Worcester, South London, Kettering, Cirencester and Fairford, Deal, Stroud, Derby, Wakefield, Doncaster, Todmorden, Leith, Newport Pagnell, Preston, Pershore, Colechester, Burnley, Colne, Hexham, and Macclesfield.

The Committee are not so sanguine as to believe, that these organizations will in every case prove thoroughly effective. In many instances, however, no doubt can be entertained that they will become valuable auxiliaries, furnishing a rallying point for local effort, and enabling the Executive Committee to carry out their plans with vigour and success even in the most distant parts of the kingdom.

The state of the funds has occasioned some anxiety to the Committee. Under ordinary circumstances, a large increase of subscriptions might naturally have been looked for, and would doubtless have been received; but the severity of the recent commercial crisis, extending, as it has done, throughout every class of the community, has tended seriously to frustrate the plans of the Committee. Many of their warmest friends have been reluctantly compelled either to withhold their accustomed aid, or to contribute a greatly reduced sum—while it has been absolutely necessary to forego applications for pecuniary assistance in entire districts which have been suffering from pressure. Yet, even under these discouraging circumstances, the receipts of the Society for the year have suffered no diminution. By the exercise of economy, they have carried on their widely-extended operations out of their ordinary resources. Their present liabilities are but small in amount, and they have promises of such increased assistance as will considerably augment, in the coming year, the means at their disposal. The Committee, however, seriously press upon the Council the absolute necessity of securing a large, steady, and unfailing fund, on a scale commensurate with the deep importance of the subject and with its rising claims. They fear that many of their friends have contributed but nominal sums as annual subscriptions, under the impression that nothing further was required of them—a circumstance from which the Society's income has greatly suffered. To such individuals the Committee respectfully and earnestly appeal, to place their subscriptions for the present year on a footing equal at least with those contributed to other public institutions, as well as to the undoubted necessities of the cause.

Gentlemen of the Council, it is impossible to look around upon passing events, without discovering many fresh inducements to prosecute this great enterprise with redoubled energy. Every aspect of public affairs invites us to be up and doing. What has taken place in the Established Church, as well as much that is going on outside of it—the political revolutions in Europe, and the manner in which they have conducted to religious liberty—the general expectation of important changes—the bolder thoughts of men in these times—the dogged immovability of the dominant party in the State—the unseemly seal with which a professedly liberal administration is forcing ecclesiastical establishments upon the colonies, and the vantage ground which Anti-state-church principles are securing for themselves—open up to us new and stirring motives to increased activity, self-sacrifice, and devotedness. Our responsibility grows with our opportunities. Every succeeding year presents us with wider fields of labour, and calls for more untiring perseverance in our work. Let us press on with renewed diligence—and whilst we avail ourselves of all the means which Divine Providence puts within our reach, let us continually invoke the blessing of Him, unto whom has been committed all power in heaven and on earth, that He might be head over all things to the Church.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Dr.		
	£	s. d.
Balance in hand	61	0 4
Subscriptions	975	16 10
Donations	443	7 0
Books Sold	88	13 0
<hr/>		
	£1,568	11 8
Cr.		
	£	s. d.
Public Meetings and Lectures ..	401	10 10
Advertising	188	1 0
Printing	178	11 8
Rent and Gas	54	0 0
Copyright	35	6 8
Salaries	425	16 0
Miscellaneous (including Coals, Cleaning, and Repairs)	18	16 9
Postage	45	16 6
Binding	7	0 0
Stationery	70	8 7
Carriage	5	12 6
Balance in hand	118	11 0
<hr/>		
	£1,548	11 8

The Reports having been unanimously adopted,

the following resolutions, after a lengthened and very animated discussion, were unanimously adopted:—

Moved by Josiah Conder, Esq.; seconded by Rev. J. Smedmore; and resolved:—

That this Council regard with serious apprehension and displeasure the repeated efforts of her Majesty's Government to extend the injustice and wrong involved in the connexion of the Church with the State as manifested in the colonial proceedings. That among these proceedings this Council place the recent attempt made by Government, to establish in the British colonies and other dependencies of the British Crown, a system of compulsory religious education, and to enforce it by special taxation and severe penalties; and also the progressive steps by which the Government is covering the colonial and territorial possessions of this country with burdensome ecclesiastical establishments, not only without consulting the wishes of the people on whom they are forced, but in direct opposition to those wishes. And that this Council have learned, with astonishment and deep regret, that a Government circular has recently been forwarded to British functionaries, of every grade and religious opinion, resident in the colonies, and representing the Government elsewhere, requiring them in all communications with prelates of the Roman Catholic Church, scrupulously to treat those prelates according to their assumed ecclesiastical dignity, and to address them as if they were peers of the realm. That, in view of these facts, as indicative of the resolve of the Government to pursue a policy unworthy of the country, and deeply injurious to religion, this Council renew their solemn and energetic protest against such policy, as trespassing on the rights of the Head of the Church, trampling on the religious liberties and conscientious scruples and convictions of the people, and introducing in every direction throughout the British empire new elements of dissatisfaction and discord.

Moved by Rev. Charles Stovel; seconded by R. Norris, Esq., of Bristol; and resolved:—

That this Council refrain from referring to the recent proceedings connected with the late episcopal appointments, and to the internal dissensions and litigations arising out of the oppressive and vexatious exercise of episcopal authority, as illustrating the evils inherent in a State-church; the necessary subserviency of its ministers to political authority, the corruption and scandal connected with the exercise of State-patronage in ecclesiastical appointments, and the incompatibility of a State-hierarchy with the rights of conscience, the independence of religious teachers, and the peace of the community.

Moved by Rev. J. H. Hinton, M.A.; seconded by Apsley Pellatt, Esq.; and resolved:—

That inasmuch as every ecclesiastical holder of Church property is constituted a body politic or corporate in order that he may hold it, and does necessarily in all circumstances hold it, not in his natural capacity, but in his corporate capacity alone, Church property is held by ecclesiastical persons on a corporate tenure exclusively; and that, consequently, as all Church property so held, is held, not for a private or commercial, but for a public object, the whole of it, in common with the ecclesiastical bodies corporate which possess it, is at the disposal of Parliament as National Property.

Moved by Rev. John Burnet; seconded by Edward Miall, Esq.; and resolved:—

That this Council regard with much satisfaction the efforts made at the recent general election to secure a Parliamentary representation of the distinctive principles of the Association, and rejoice in the measure of success with which such efforts were crowned; that they are not surprised at the obvious design of the two dominant parties in the State to prevent a free expression of this principle in the Commons' House, and derive only encouragement from the tone of insolent dictation in which it is attempted to repress the discussion of the question of State Churches; that their thanks are due, and are hereby presented, to those members of Parliament who have stood forth as the advocates of their principles; and they trust that the time is not distant when their combination and growing numbers will compel the Minister of the day to maintain a more courteous bearing than has recently been evinced. That, in the meantime, the Council earnestly entreat their Parliamentary friends to maintain their position, call on all the advocates of entire religious liberty to rally to their support, and strongly urge on the Dissenters of the Kingdom to lose no opportunity of carrying out, consistently and firmly, their avowed conviction that all legislation by secular governments in affairs of religion is an encroachment upon the rights of conscience, and a usurpation of Divine authority.

Moved by Rev. John Kennedy; seconded by Rev. John Stock, of Chatham; and resolved:—

1. That this Council renew its decided opposition to the Parliamentary grants to certain bodies of Presbyterian ministers in Ireland, and to the relief of Protestant Dissenting ministers of the Three Denominations in England.
2. That, besides objecting to such payments on the general principle that Government ought not to interfere, either by patronage or restraint, with religious creeds and forms of worship, this Council deprecates the State support afforded to the Presbyterians in Ireland, because it tends to screen the State-Church Establishment in that country from merited condemnation; to justify the extension of similar support to a numerous priesthood now subsisting on the free-will offerings of their own flocks; to confound the most opposite creeds as equally worthy of public patronage; and to begot in the ministers of religion a servile subjection to the governing power, and a spirit of indifference to the proper objects of their sacred calling.
3. That the question herein involved being one of principle, and not of degree, the same objections are applicable, notwithstanding the insignificance of the amount of the Parliamentary grant entrusted to certain individuals for distribution among their fellow-ministers in England and Wales; and that, therefore, this Council will never relax in its efforts to procure the discontinuance of both these grants.

Moved by the Rev. Samuel Green; seconded by the Rev. W. H. Bonner; and resolved:—

That this Council observe with high satisfaction, and regard as one of the most hopeful features in the political changes now taking place on the Continent of Europe, the progress made towards clear views of the position which the Church ought to occupy as distinct from the State, not only in those countries which are more especially Protestant, and in those which are partly Protestant and partly Papal, but also in those which have hitherto been exclusively Papal, and even in the States of the Church. That in most of these countries all citizens are held to be entitled to equal political rights, irrespectively of their religious profession; and that in some of them considerable progress has been made towards the entire separation of the Church from the State, while in others events are manifestly advancing towards that result.

The business of the Council having been completed, the meeting, after the usual votes of thanks, separated at four o'clock.

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MEETING.—THE SPITALFIELDS WEAVERS.—On Tuesday evening, the 25 ult., a public meeting was convened by the Rev. J. Brown, M.A., incumbent of St. Matthias, Bethnal-green, at the large Episcopal Chapel, St. John's-street, Brick-lane. The place will hold about 1,600 to 1,800 persons, which was filled. At the time appointed to occupy the chair, the Rev. J. Brown took the chair by the communion, but had not long occupied it, when a gentleman from the body of the meeting inquired who authorized Mr. Brown to take the chair without being proposed. This caused great confusion. Another person rose in the gallery and proposed that H. Mander May, Esq., should take the chair; this was hailed with cheering and waving

of hats, which lasted some minutes, to the no small chagrin of the worthy clergyman who had convened the meeting. The cheering was again renewed with double clamour as Mr. May made his way to the communion, and took the chair. Mr. Brown protested against this proceeding, he having been announced in the bills to take the chair. At this stage it was suggested that the meeting should divide; all those being in favour of Mr. Brown taking the chair to go to the right, and all those for Mr. May to move to the left; when hundreds flocked to Mr. May's side, and about eleven or twelve to Mr. Brown's, which was again hailed with great cheering and waving of hats. When order was in some measure restored, Mr. May addressed the meeting on Anti-state-church principles, which was interrupted by loud and general applause; he (Mr. May) also touched on the political topics of the day, which the clergymen who surrounded him endeavoured to cry down, which was of no avail. Mr. Brown thought it was rather unfair to treat him thus in his own place of worship, and after having called the meeting and paid the expenses out of his own pocket, to find Mr. May, a Dissenter, occupying the chair which should have been occupied by a clergyman of the Church of England. He must admit that Mr. May was a gentleman much esteemed by the country and a great favourite in his (Mr. Brown's) parish. The meeting was called to consider the cultivation of the waste lands. The chairman would limit the time to the speakers, and therefore called on Mr. Brown to state what he had called the meeting to consider; and a quarter of an hour was the time allotted to each of the gentlemen to state their views. Messrs. J. Hornsby, J. Howsman, A. Sharp, — Holmes, and — Buck, with several gentlemen of the Church, addressed the meeting, which concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. H. Mander May for his able conduct in the chair, which was the signal for enthusiastic cheering. Thanks were awarded to Mr. Brown for allowing the chapel, and remaining as he did during the whole time of the meeting. It will be in the recollection of many of our readers, that we gave an account of three or four meetings which were called by the Church-party in Hare-street, and which were attended by Mr. May, who had on all occasions the majority of the meeting in his favour.—*From a Correspondent.*

MARKET HARBOUROUGH.—An Anti-state-church meeting was held in this town on the 20th ult.; Mr. Nunneley occupied the chair. The Rev. Messrs. Miller, Toller, Gough, and J. H. Hinton, Mr. Grundy, and other gentlemen, addressed the meeting, and resolutions were adopted approving of the objects and constitution of the Anti-state-church Association.

THE CHURCH AND STATE QUESTION IN GERMANY. The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* writes:—

The Commission appointed to consider the new organization of the Protestant church has been officially informed, that the Government will for the future abstain from all interference with its internal regulation and constitution. It will be at liberty to adopt such measures as may secure its independence. They are to be discussed and adopted by members of the congregations freely chosen; and it is the advice of the Executive that this selection should not be made exclusively from those in communion with the Establishment. Those who have separated from its discipline, but still accept its fundamental principles, such as the Old Lutherans, may have the opportunity offered them of joining the Evangelical Church, under a free and comprehensive constitution, and thus restore peace and unity to the whole body. The Commission has accepted the proposition, and will take immediately the steps necessary to carry out the plan.

Upon this the *Scottish Guardian* [Free Church] remarks:—"Events will soon show what weight is to be attached to the above. At the same time, the very idea of the Protestant Church of Prussia being at once an Established and a Free Church is interesting—a Church embracing between eight and nine thousand congregations. Should the proposal be formally made, we foresee great difficulties in the attempt to realize it. . . . Perhaps, after all, separation of Church and State is more probable than a spiritual organization of these bodies. There is reason to believe that the principle of separation has made great progress in Germany as well as in France. There seems to have been a strong unseen under-current, which public events are now only manifesting. A remarkable proof of this is to be found in the fact, that a few weeks ago seventeen of the leading German towns along the Rhine assembled in their municipal capacity, to indicate to the King of Prussia what were essential as political changes for the new constitution of Germany. Strange as it may sound, all of them, and that unanimously, declared separation of Church and State among the indispensable conditions. No one could have anticipated the possibility of such a declaration three months ago; and so it may be of other Church Establishments in Europe, at present apparently tranquil and secure. When the occasion for their removal occurs in Providence, it will be found that their hold upon the country has as completely gone, and that, with inconsiderable exceptions, all parties are ready for a change." A meeting has been convened by Pastor Zille, of Leipzig, to petition the German Diet at Frankfurt for the recognition of the civil equality of members of all persuasions, the separation of the Church from the State, and liberty for every form of worship compatible with the safety of the State. The petition, however, prays that the State should protect and support religious denominations, which seems to intimate that they were to retain their State endowments. The petition was signed by clergymen of five different persuasions—Lutheran, Reformed, Catholic, German-Catholic, and Jewish.

PAYMENT OF THE IRISH CLERGY.—We wish to direct the particular attention of our readers to the concluding passage of a speech delivered by Mr. Shiel, on Thursday, the 13th ult., in the debate on "Ministers' Money." It escaped our notice at the time, but some later rumours lend it peculiar significance:—

He (Mr. Shiel) would only say further that he was convinced that unless the Ecclesiastical institutions of Ireland were modified [hear, hear],—*unless they dealt boldly and promptly with respect both to the Catholic Church and the Protestant Church*, although they might apply some wretched, paltry, and temporary remedy for the real evils of Ireland, they would not be able to devise a cure [hear, hear].

How, our readers will ask, is Government to "deal promptly and boldly" with the Catholic Church? Respectable rumour informs us that Mr. Shiel has urged on the Ministers with considerable success the necessity of pensioning the Catholic priests, and that some such measure is in the budget of measures soon to be forthcoming.—*The Tablet.*

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.—In a letter to the *Norfolk News*, Mr. J. H. Tillett calls attention to the intentions of the Roman Catholic Church, in reference to the great questions now agitating the Continent, made known to the Diet of Switzerland, by the Apostolic Nuncio, appointed to represent the Court of Rome. The address of that important personage contains the following momentous statement:—

Be assured, that the Church, certain of the perpetuity of its destiny, fixes not its hopes exclusively on any human institution. It has long accepted with gratitude the favours of the powers of the earth; it does so still, where that temporary support is afforded it. *Nor will it refuse, when the moment shall arrive, to acknowledge the great principle of a complete separation between it and the State. It will not for a moment hesitate, if circumstances so decide, to inscribe on its banner, THAT NOBLE AND SUPREME EXPRESSION OF TOLERANCE AND LIBERTY.*

Cotemporaneously with this appears the following in the *Tablet*, the Roman Catholic journal:—

The Church needs the people to save their souls, and to bring them to God. The people need the Church, not only for the life to come, but for this life also. From her, taught by the Spirit of God, must come the thoughts, the ideas, the feelings, the habits, by which alone a new society can be constituted, and anarchy averted from the world. *To do this, she must identify herself with the people—she must become their servant—she must stoop down to their lips, to learn from them their diseases; that so she may discover and apply the remedy. She must learn their new dialect, in order to teach them once more her old truths. The hearts of her consecrated children must become democratic, in order on that only possible basis to reorganize a crumbling world.*

Of all persons, of all corporations, of all social existences, the church of God has the greatest need to be made acquainted with the fact; to discern the signs of the times; to penetrate below the surface, and understand what lies throbbing, but unspoken, in the inmost soul of the human race.

I commend these significant facts (he concludes) to the attention of our Episcopalian brethren. They admit the sagacity and foresight of the leaders of the Catholic Church. What surer evidence can be given of the approaching triumph of the great principle for which we have contended? The Protestant Church, unless it awakes, will be lost; it will cling to its State pay and aristocratic connexions, and will lose the support of the millions.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER AND THE REV. MR. GORHAM.—It is said that the Government is ready to give way to the Bishop of Exeter; and that Mr. Gorham has been sounded to know if he would accept another living, so as to make way for a clergyman whom the Bishop would accept. We repeat the story as it has reached us; but it ought to be investigated. If it be true, the Free Church of Scotland has a right to complain. You drove five hundred Evangelical Clergy out of the Scotch Establishment, because patronage was property, and it was the duty of the State to maintain it! Is patronage to be maintained against Presbyteries, and to be sacrificed to bishops? Was the Veto unsafe with Dr. Chalmers, and is it safe with Dr. Phillpotts? Does the Government deliberately mean to establish the precedent, which, if conceded by the Crown, can never be resisted by lay patrons, that diocesan may negative, without assigning reasons, presentations to any livings in their diocese?—*Universe.*

THE BISHOP OF LONDON DEFEATED.—As bishops have recently been prominently before the public, it may not be uninteresting to your readers to know somewhat of the proceedings of the Right Rev. Father in God the Lord Bishop of London. An election for "a parishioners' churchwarden" took place during the past week in our usually quiet parish of Fulham, the candidates being John Horsley Palmer, Esq. (patronized by the Bishop and the Vicar), and Major Maclean (the people's candidate). At the vestry meeting, the show of hands being declared in favour of Major Maclean, a poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Palmer, by a tradesman of the town who has the reputation of doing the vicar's dirty work. On Thursday morning last the contest commenced, and at the close of the day the poll showed a majority of eleven votes in favour of Mr. Palmer. The Bishop, who appeared determined to succeed at all hazards, and who did not hesitate so far to make known his sentiments as to say that he would ride a hundred miles, and spend a hundred pounds, to secure Mr. Palmer's return, now called into action all the strength of his party. His lordship, the vicar, and even Mr. Palmer himself, each registered his six votes; parishioners who were recreating at Brighton and Hastings were summoned home to aid the good (?) cause; some who either could not or would not pay their rates, had them

paid by kind, and of course disinterested, friends, to enable them to vote. Many and various were the influences brought into operation, but all to no purpose; the gross poll giving to Major Maclean a majority of fourteen votes, and a much larger majority of voters—a source of so much chagrin that the vicar refused to sanction the adoption of an universal practice on such occasions, viz. the ringing of the bells.—*From a Correspondent.*

THE ENTHRONIZATION OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY took place on Friday, and was attended by nearly all the great county families. The Archbishop was attended by about 200 clergymen.

PROTEST OF THE DEAN OF HEREFORD AGAINST DR. HAMPTON.—The installation was conducted by Canon Musgrave, the hebdomadary, in opposition to the wishes of the Dean, the Archpresbyter, and Rector of the Cathedral. The Dean handed in a protest, which, it appears, Canon Musgrave refused even to read.

THE BISHOP OF LLANDAFF has, it is stated, refused to institute the Rev. Mr. Sampson to the living of St. Andrew's, in his diocese, because that gentleman is ignorant of the Welsh language. The Lord Chancellor is patron of the benefice.

GROSS CASE OF CLERICAL IMPOSTURE.—The Rev. W. R. Mahon, rector of Rawmarsh, near Rotherham, intending to pass the winter in Ireland, and having no curate, advertised in the *Ecclesiastical Gazette*, in the autumn of 1847, for a substitute. The "Honourable and Reverend B. C. D. F. Fairfax" offered himself as a candidate, and was accepted. Mr. Mahon knew nothing of him personally—had never seen him—did not stay to see him—but started off for Ireland in November. On the eve of the Sunday following, Mr. Fairfax took possession of the rectory, and appeared in the pulpit in the forenoon—tall and slender, dark complexioned, and young—his hair jetty, and his eyes dark and large. He was, moreover, a decided Puseyite. The ladies pronounced him handsome and interesting:—the Bishop of Exeter would have added "orthodox." Somehow or other, it was whispered abroad that he was immensely rich, and of a noble family. To the tradesmen of the parish and neighbourhood he was a liberal and welcome patron; and both great and small were hospitably regaled at the rectory, wine and whisky being continually on the flow. Need we say that he was remarkably popular? A few shook their heads, but the mass applauded. A "cousin" came on a visit to him, clothed in unmentionables, but suspected by the scandalous to be a lady; and about the same time a strange youngster made his appearance at the rectory—a green and gold tiger—who also became the subject of speculation. By the time that Mr. Mahon was returning, the creditors of Mr. Fairfax were becoming clamorous; and no sooner, therefore, had he squared accounts with the rector, than he left Rawmarsh on pretence of a visit to Whiston rectory, and was no more seen—his "cousin" and the tiger disappearing at the same time, and also a large quantity of luggage. Church collections and charity funds, entrusted to his charge, have all been appropriated; and as it is doubtful that he is really a clergyman, parties whom he married are ill at ease, feeling far from certain that they are "man and wife." "It is only just to Mr. Mahon to state," says the *Sheffield Times*, "that to use his own words, 'the references and testimonials, &c., [of Mr. Fairfax,] appeared satisfactory.'" But did Mr. Mahon write to any of the "references," or was he satisfied with their bare "appearance?"

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION IN MANCHESTER.—The really religious members of the Church of England, in Manchester, (says the *Times* of that city,) if church reform be resisted, will probably begin to ask themselves what they would lose were the connexion between Church and State severed altogether, and for ever. In the list of places of worship in Manchester we find,—

Churches connected with the Establishment	39
Baptist Chapels	9
Catholic	6
Independent	17
Methodist, Wesleyan	21
Methodist, New Connexion	4
Methodist, Association	12
Unitarian	4
Welsh Independent	4
Methodist, Primitive	4
Other denominations	19

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A VOICE FROM THE TOMB.—A few miles from Ingatestone (writes a Nonconformist minister) is the village of S—. In the parish there is a building, called by some the parish church, by others Old Peggy's establishment. This building, and the ground on which it stands, have been consecrated, and therefore are sacred and holy. On this consecrated ground a tomb was in the course of erection, and employed thereat was a bricklaying artisan. The rector of the parish, who is hauling up candidates for confirmation, came to the workman, and urged upon him the necessity of sending his children to be confirmed. He replied, he had left them to the care of his wife (who is a member of the Independent church)—and evidently, by his manner, showed a great want of faith in this clearly revealed and important doctrine. The clergyman remonstrated, and the man in the tomb, on consecrated ground, in the presence of God's minister, and in direct opposition to a certain noble Lord, said, "If the bishops had less money, and the poor people more, things would be better for the working man." Moses was once angry, and so was the rector; and, I believe, though on consecrated ground, the sun went down upon his wrath; at least it set upon his bigotry, folly, and rage. He ordered the man to desist—not

to place another brick, if so it would be pulled down; and the man, taking up his implement, went his way. It is only to show the *animus* of the State-churchmen who have little piety and much churchism, that we condescend to notice this and forward it to you. Many more things have been said and done by him. The other day he told a poor boy in the street to deliver an impudent message to the Dissenting minister, telling him he was unfit to teach. The rector alone can lisp the truth. I have not yet joined the Anti-state-church Association, but I now intend doing so, for its right spirit and right views commend themselves to all earnest and Christian minds.

CHURCH-RATES, ST. AUSTELL.—In September last, a meeting for the purpose of making a church-rate was called by the wardens, who have not hesitated to declare their great regret at being compelled to have recourse to so generally unpopular a measure, to which they were compelled by the pertinacity of certain of those gentlemen whom the great Cromwell aptly described as those who were unduly enriched from the community to whom they rendered no corresponding service, and who still find, that by involving their labours in litigation, they increase their own gains. As was reported in your paper about the same time, a meeting of some hundreds of rate-payers was held, when seven persons only, inclusive of the officials, supported the rate in the teeth of the earnest opposition of the meeting. But in consequence of the dangers and expense of an ecclesiastical suit, the parish has been ridden over by this arbitrary and unjust dictum, and two individuals, viz., Mr. Richard Williams and Mr. Samuel Barlow, who have consistently refused to pay the demand, have been visited by the Church in the person of the constable, who has taken in one case more than fifteen times, and in the other more than twenty times the amount of the rate. It may be worthy of remark that although four magistrates signed the order for payment, only one signed the warrant of distress, and he a Whig-made baronet; and like most of their proteges, of little or no service but for their dirty work.—*From a Correspondent.*

DIVINE SERVICE (ARMY).—A return has been obtained by the Earl of Arundel of the particulars of the sum of £16,800, charged in the estimates for divine service in the army for the year 1848-9. The items in the recapitulation are as follows:—Under the head of Episcopalian, £3,767 in Great Britain, £2,647 in Ireland, and £7,380 on foreign stations. Under Presbyterian, £292 in Great Britain, £272 in Ireland, and £60 on foreign service; and for Roman Catholic, £709 in Great Britain, £478 in Ireland, and £642 on foreign stations. These sums, with £300 for religious books, and £253 for contingencies, make the total estimate of £16,800. This charge is in addition to the sum of £2,836 6s. 3d. borne on the estimate for staff officers at home and abroad; and which includes the pay and allowances of the commissioned staff chaplains at London, Chatham, Malta, Barbadoes, and the Mauritius.

CONGREGATIONAL PSALMODY.—We understand that Mr. Waite has recently completed his fourth series of instructions and exercises in Psalmody. Mr. Waite's labours in the metropolis commenced, we believe, with a course of gratuitous lectures at the Tabernacle, Spa-fields, Claremont, Tottenham Court-road, and Aldermanbury Postern Chapels. Many of our leading ministers attended, and the result was, that, by a meeting of the Congregational ministers of London, Mr. Waite was invited to give another course at Finsbury Chapel. That course—cheap in price, elementary in character, and accompanied by specimens of congregational singing that abundantly evidenced the soundness of Mr. Waite's principles—was eminently successful. It was therefore understood and felt by numbers that our psalmody was capable of a very considerable improvement—that it might, and should, be made the vehicle of uttering the Divine praise with warmth of heart, intelligence of mind, and harmony of voice. Then came a course embracing Spa-fields, Hackney, Craven, Surrey, and Falcon-square Chapels. Nearly 5,000 persons attended this course. Permanent good is likely to follow, in some of the congregations at least. Old books and old methods have been discarded, and superior tunes, with a better mode of singing, in accordance with Mr. Waite's principles, have been introduced. It should be clearly understood, that little reformation can be effected unless a good tune-book become a portion of the "new library," and is employed regularly with the hymn-book. Mr. Waite's last course included the following chapels:—Mr. Aveling's, Kingland; Dr. Reed's; Mr. Clayton's, Walworth; Mr. Martin's, Westminster; and the Wesleyan Chapel, Liverpool-road. At the last-mentioned place the President of the Conference was present on one occasion, and opened the service with prayer. We hope this reformation will be welcomed by the whole Wesleyan body, for their psalmody is by no means worthy of their noble hymn-book. Such is a brief history of the psalmody movement so far. And we are happy to know that the interest is not abating, but augmenting; and that, after an aggregate meeting at Exeter-hall, on the 10th of May, Mr. Waite has made arrangements to commence another course, which, we doubt not, will prove as successful and as useful as the previous ones.

FAST TRAIN.—The Great Western Railway morning express-train of Wednesday made the journey from Paddington to Didcot, 63 miles, in 49 minutes 50 seconds; and ran the distance to Bath, 118½ miles, in about 2 hours 25 minutes, including stoppages. The train was drawn by the "Emperor," a new eight-wheeled engine.

RELIGIOUS ANNIVERSARIES.

BAPTIST IRISH SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of this Institution was held at Finsbury Chapel, on Tuesday evening, the 25th ult., and was numerously attended. S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P., took the chair.

The proceedings having been commenced by singing,

The Rev. Mr. Strock (of Chatham) implored the Divine blessing.

The CHAIRMAN then rose and said: He was glad that the meeting of that night was one purely of a religious character; any other would neither produce satisfaction to their own minds, nor advantage to the object they were assembled to promote. There was little hope of any beneficial result recurring to that country, except by the simple declaration of the Gospel of Christ by men who had felt its power in their own souls, and who went forth, not to engage in controversy, but in the simple enunciation of the truth to witness to that power which they had felt in their own happy experience. He had lately had an opportunity of making inquiries with reference to the character of the agents whom this Society employed, from friends of his who knew Ireland well, and he was happy to bear testimony to the fact, that they were simple-hearted men, communicating to those who needed it above all others that instruction the preciousness of which they had themselves realized [cheers]. He was happy to learn that, in the darkest districts of Ireland, the proclamation of the Gospel had not been without its happy fruit. In Connought, to which they had looked more than to any other part of that country with alarm and anxiety, he was happy to know that the efforts of this Society, and another kindred Institution—the Irish Evangelical Society—had been productive of the most beneficial effects. During the past year, Ireland had suffered from famine of the most severe character, and with it the attendant evil of fever; and it was only those who had visited that country that could form any idea of the sufferings which the people had been called to endure. It was most creditable to them that they had sustained their sufferings as they had done. His own intimate knowledge of the Irish character enabled him to bear testimony to the fact, that there were no people on the face of the earth,—though at times they were excitable,—who endured sufferings with more patience and more kindness of feeling than did the Irish [cheers]. They could not view their own operations in Ireland without regarding them in connexion with the labours of other Institutions; and when they saw the people of Ireland taxed as they were to a large amount, for the support of the religion of one-eighth of the population, they must feel that it would have a tendency to prevent the diffusion of the truth. He felt it to be a responsibility depending upon himself on all occasions, whenever he had an opportunity, to lift up his voice,—to do all he could to remove the burden of the Establishment from Ireland [loud cheers].

The Rev. P. TRESTRAIL then read an abstract of the Report:—

It stated that the Committee had never had to meet their constituents under circumstances so peculiar and trying as those which had distinguished the past year. The Mission itself, in its entirety, had been more than usually prosperous. Death had removed only two of the little band. Nearly all the churches had received encouraging additions, and the facilities of access to the people were increasing every day. Deep, and hitherto almost inveterate, prejudices were giving way to the force of truth and the spirit of Christian love. Last year, the Committee had to report the death of Mrs. Harcourt, of fever. In July last, her pious and devoted husband followed her to the grave. The loss to the Church in Waterford and to the Society had been very great, and the breach had not yet been repaired. Gentlemen of all parties in Waterford formed a committee to raise a fund for the education of his orphan children, which amounted to £421, the Committee having voted towards it £50. It then detailed the proceedings of the various stations occupied by the Society, and showed the advantages which had resulted from the relief fund. Ireland, it stated, was in a transition state, and the future happiness or misery of that country, for years, greatly depended on the way in which the present crisis was met. Ireland must have more attention from British Churches as well as the British Parliament; the old notion, that anything would do for Ireland, must be abandoned. Both in feeling and in principle there must be more of apostolic zeal, and wisdom, and piety. From the treasurer's account, it appeared that the total receipts, during the past year, amounted to £2,546 12s. 9d.; the expenditure, including a balance due to the treasurer last year of £1,626 12s. 3d., to £4,305 13s. 11d., leaving a balance against the Society of £1,756 1s. 2d. The receipts for the relief fund, including a balance in hand last year of £3,545 17s. 7d., amounted to £4,408 15s. 9d.; the expenditure was £2,103 19s. 8d.; leaving, therefore, a balance in hand of £2,304 16s. 1d.

The Rev. B. STEPHENS, of Manchester, in moving the adoption of the Report, said that the Protestants of England owed to the Catholics of Ireland a debt, which they had not yet begun to pay. The ancient Christianity of the East came through Lyons (as we understood) to this country. St. Patrick had no communication with Rome [hear, hear]. There was scarcely an authentic document belonging to Wales which did not prove that the ancient Britons had resisted the aggressions of Rome. Much was said at the present time of the Popery of Ireland. Who made the Irish Catholics? The English settlers. It took centuries to make them submit to Canterbury when a Romish see. It was said in a book published by Mr. Todd, of Dublin, for Puseyitish purposes, that the great fault of St. Patrick was that of making so many bishops. They had one for almost every congregation [laughter, and cheers]. The

duty of Protestants at the present day was to attempt to undo the evil which had been done. They possessed the gospel, and they were bound to send it to Ireland, as they were doing through this Society. There was little in the Society which dazzled, but, as Dr. Paley observed, what the Redeemer described as great in the sermon on the mount was not only not the kind of greatness which the world esteemed, but it was the directly opposite. This Society needed an agency which would constantly keep its claims steadily before the Christian church, and that agency it had in its excellent Secretary [loud cheers].

Rev. CALEB BIRT, in seconding the resolution, said, that it had been his lot to visit Ireland, and although his stay was short, he had travelled over every part of it. He envied not the Englishman who could visit that country without feeling a deep interest in the welfare of its inhabitants. Great was their misery. Their clothes all appeared to have been those which had been cast off by the people of England. It was impossible to describe the wretchedness of their dwellings, or their miseries, arising from their want of food, and that not with reference to the late famine only, but generally. The Irish had a loving heart, and great must be their distress when they beheld the hunger of their children, and were unable to alleviate it. There was no middle class in Ireland to be a reciprocal conductor of sympathy between rich and poor. For miles there was nothing to be seen but the most wretched cabins. The conflicting religious opinions of Roman Catholics and Protestants tended much to aggravate the miseries of Ireland. The Irish were brought to terms with their priests, but they were far distant from God. Depending on ritual observances, they had no true knowledge of Him. Ireland required the friendship of England. Though with a weeping spirit he had read of the sufferings of Ireland through a period of famine and death; yet, when he learned from the Report that, through the agents of this Society, no fewer than 2,000 objects of pity and commiseration had received, day by day, their daily bread, he could not but hope that the prejudices long indulged against the Saxon and Protestant would be melted down, and a way opened up for the diffusion of that bread from heaven which would give life to the world [cheers]. The resolution referred to prayer; let that be offered, and as sure as were the promises of God, so surely would China become what it professed to be, "the celestial empire;" and Ireland, what it was called in legendary lore, "the land of saints." [cheers.]

The resolution was then put and carried.

The Rev. Mr. GARVER, a deputation from the Irish Evangelical Society, moved the second resolution, as follows:—

That this meeting again records its deep sympathy with the continued sufferings of the Irish poor, and gratefully acknowledges the fact, that so large a measure of temporal relief has been afforded to multitudes, through the funds placed in the hands of the committee for that purpose; that it desires to express unfeigned gratitude to Almighty God for preserving the lives of nearly all the agents during another year of pestilence and death; and would earnestly beseech Him to bless the affecting calamities which in the Divine Providence have fallen on Ireland, to the social and spiritual regeneration of her people.

He remarked that he appeared before them as the representative of the Irish Evangelical Society; he had been selected on account of the fact that, during the two years of famine, he had been appointed to visit Ireland to distribute the charitable fund. In discharge of that duty, he had visited the country four different times, and past through every part of the island, and thus obtained a pretty accurate knowledge of the country. He remarked that he too, as well as his friend, who had before spoken, was a Celt. It had been well said that the Irish were an affectionate people, and he would add, an independent people, for poverty had frequently the effect of making a man independent. As they were forbidden to speak on politics at this meeting, he would not say it was through bad government Ireland was brought to its present state, but he might think what he liked [laughter]; but the fact was that, throughout the nations of Europe there was not a country suffering so much, physically, morally, and spiritually, as the sister country. He would ask, then, what could we do to raise Ireland? It had been declared that the union should be maintained at all hazards; if then it be maintained, he would say let it be a union, let the two countries be equally cared for, and equally governed. If he were speaking to the editors of some of the leading journals in this country, he would say to them, Do not cast oil on the flame now kindling between the two countries: if you be lovers of order, do not endeavour to set the Saxon against the Celt, or the Celt against the Saxon. To do so, was not the way to consolidate the union. It had been said, that England owed a duty to Ireland; since it was the English Henry II. who introduced Popery to Ireland. Let no man say the Irish could not be loyal; had they not been loyal to Popery? Through good report and evil report, had they not been loyal to it? Our efforts must be to make them loyal to Christ. This Society was taking the lead of every other society in Ireland in one respect; that was, in the establishment of schools throughout the country. The characteristic of Popery was, that it governed the whole man by cultivating and leading captive the imagination at the expense of the intellect, and thus was the mind steeled against any further appeal; but the Irish Society, by the establishment of schools, were taking the very best means to gain possession of the youthful mind before it was enslaved by Popery. It was painful to him to read, day by day, charges of ingratitude against the Irish people; they had forgotten, it was said, all that the English had done for them in the time of famine; but the mad speeches of men in Conciliation-hall were not the voice of the Irish people; the Irish

were grateful. He would conclude by expressing his hope, that the recent famine in Ireland was as the dark hour which precedes the dawn, and that a bright day was rising for Ireland, and the time was approaching when it should be proclaimed, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen," to rise no more [loud cheering].

The Rev. J. BRANCH seconded the resolution.

The resolution was then put and carried.

The Rev. F. TRESTRAIL said that, on behalf of the Committee, it became his duty to return to the Chairman their sincere thanks for having so kindly presided on this occasion [loud cheers].

The Rev. Dr. ACWORTH having concluded the meeting by prayer, the assembly separated.

BAPTIST UNION.

The thirty-sixth annual session of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland was held at the Baptist Mission-house, Moorgate-street, on Friday, April 21st, and by adjournment, on Wednesday, April 27th. The attention of the brethren assembled on this occasion was principally directed to the state of the churches, which, in common with almost all religious communions in England, continue to exhibit a languishing indication. The feelings of the Union on this point are so strong, that they adopted an address to the constituent churches, which will immediately issue from the press, and which contains a proposition, that the solemn attention of the churches shall be simultaneously engaged to this subject on Lord's-day, the 11th of June. The Session adopted a petition to the House of Commons for the discontinuance of the English and Irish *Regium Donum*, and expressed their sentiments on the present state of the continent of Europe in the following terms:—

Resolved,—That the Union cannot contemplate the extraordinary changes which have recently taken place on the continent of Europe, without a solemn acknowledgment of the hand of God, and a recognition of their relation to his cause; and that they especially rejoice in the evident panting of the human mind after religious freedom in the measure in which liberty of worship has already been acquired, and in the prospect of the more extended vindication of the rights of conscience.

The Union had the pleasure of receiving the Rev. Amos Sutton, from India, as representative of the Bengal Baptist Association; and, as visitors, introduced by the Rev. Dr. Burns, of Paddington,—the Rev. Eli Noyes, M.A., of Boston; and the Rev. J. Woodman, of Lyndon, Vermont; a deputation from the body of Free Will Baptists in the United States to the General Baptist Association in England.

The public meeting was held on Thursday evening, April 27th, at New Park-street chapel. The Rev. Dr. Murch, the chairman of the Union this year, presided; and the meeting was addressed by the following gentlemen:—The Revs. Eli Noyes, R. Morris, V. Fustrial, C. Stone, and S. Green.

BIBLE TRANSLATION SOCIETY.

The eighth annual meeting of this institution was held at New Park-street Chapel, Southwark, on Wednesday evening last, and was very numerously attended. Thomas Pwntress, Esq., occupied the chair, and among the ministers and gentlemen on the platform were Drs. Steane, Acworth, Burns, Revds. T. Edwards, T. Wigan, E. Hull, W. Green, W. B. Bowers, J. Smith, Messrs. H. Kelsall, G. J. Kemp, G. Lowe, F.R.S., C. Burla, J. Webb, and E. B. Underhill.

The business having been commenced by singing, the Rev. T. Wigan, of Lynn, implored the Divine blessing.

The Chairman introduced the business of the meeting in a few introductory observations.

Dr. STEANE, the Secretary, then read the report.

It submitted that the translation and circulation of the word of God should be viewed as a duty, regardless of results. The eminent translators of oriental versions, Carey, Marshman, Chamberlain, and Yates, were satisfied to prosecute their wearisome labours on the ground that it was their calling and duty; and an indescribable satisfaction they no doubt felt as their work was gradually completed [hear, hear]. The faithful and continuous performance of duty, simply because it is duty, was the course to which the supporters of that institution were called. By thus acting they would have the present comfort of a good conscience, and the hope of final acceptance [cheers]. Considerable progress had been made in the translations during the last year. A new edition of the New Testament in Sanscrit was carried down to the end of Acts; and of the Old Testament, a first edition down to Leviticus xxvi., a much larger portion was prepared but not yet printed. In Bengalee, 15,000 copies of the Gospels of Matthew and John had been reprinted, and that of Mark was in the press. A revised edition of the entire Bible had been printed, as far as the end of Leviticus, and a new edition of Isaiah and Daniel. In Hindsee the Gospels and Acts as prepared by Mr. Leslie. The New Testament had also been finished in Hindostanee. The number of volumes issued from the depository during the year was 74,852. In aid of the translations, the committee made two grants of £500 each. They also made a grant of £150 to the General Baptist Missionary Society, towards defraying the expense of printing a new edition of Marshman's Chinese version of the New Testament. The contributions to the Society, during the year, amounted to £1,568 15s. 8d., including a legacy of £19 19s., paid by the executors of the late Mr. Harris, of Bristol. Three other legacies had also been left them, £100 by the late Mr. Ryan, of Leeds; £200 by the late Mr. Walker, of Saffron Walden; and one-third of the property of the late Mrs. Keighly, of Hampstead, sworn under £3,000. The last two would not be available, it was expected, for a considerable period. The report concluded by expressing a hope that in the good providence of God, the friends of the Society might be enabled to contribute more largely during another year. Their Society had, in common with others, suffered from the depression of commerce, but in subscriptions not more than £100 [hear, hear]. They felt it most in the absence of large donations, such as had been given in previous years.

The Rev. EDMUND HULL, of Watford, in a short speech, moved the first resolution:—

That this meeting desires to express a lively sense of thankfulness to God for the diligence with which he has enabled their brethren employed in translating and circulating the sacred Scriptures in India and China, to pursue their important work, adopts the report now read; and directs it to be printed under the care of the committee.

The Rev. AMOS SUTTON, a missionary of the General Baptists, from Orissa, seconded the resolution. Although he belonged to another section, it had been his happiness to associate with those more especially connected with this Society. He had often laboured with them shoulder to shoulder [cheers]. He need not speak of their diligence; their works bore sufficient testimony to their untiring labours. He would bear witness to their fidelity, having tested every word in their Bengalee edition of the Scriptures, and could safely assert it to be a most faithful translation [cheers]. The speaker, in alluding to the report, said, that in circulating the Bible it need never be asked if good resulted. The Bible might be compared to any of the great natural gifts of God: the sun, for instance—no one ever thought of asking if the sun was a blessing to man. He could not live without it [cheers]. Some years ago he gave a Bible to a drover who could not read, but it being read to him, was the means of his conversion, and that of many others; the drover himself had become a preacher of the gospel, and three others by his means [hear, hear]. He could give a great number of cases of a similar kind, but would forbear. There was a class of people in Orissa who offered human sacrifices. Children were bought up and fattened for slaughter [sensation]. The British Government were exerting themselves nobly for the abolition of this practice, but at present with very partial success. He had forty of these children under his own charge, who had been rescued from this murderous rite [hear, and cheers]. Among those children was a very rough and unruly boy, to whom they had given the name of Abraham [laughter]—not, however, because he was unruly [loud and continued laughter]. For a long time neither himself nor wife could do anything with the boy; but they watched over him carefully, and prayed much for him, until they had the pleasure of seeing him as tractable and amiable as he was formerly the reverse; and he died in a blessed hope of eternal life, having for weeks before his death been a most diligent student of the pages of inspired wisdom [cheers]. These were some of the fruits of Bible distribution in heathen lands: his most earnest desire was, that all men should possess the volume of heavenly truth, and through it find a Saviour. The reverend gentleman concluded by cordially seconding the resolution.

E. B. UNDERHILL, Esq., supported it. On coming forward he was received with much cordiality. It was unnecessary for him to speak of the necessity of circulating the word of God; facts spoke much louder than any words he could utter. Luther was preceded in his work by two German Baptists. These men laid hold of this truth: for it they struggled, and for it they died [hear, hear]. Their case was not peculiar; Baptists of the same stamp were found in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries translating the word of God. There was also now in existence a very creditable version of the Scriptures, in Dutch, made about 320 years ago, by persons holding Baptist views. In consequence of persecution, they were continually going from place to place, but took their printing press with them; and that they might be unmolested in their undertaking, they took a boat on the open sea, and there completed and printed their version of the Scriptures [cheers]. When the version by order of King James was made, and certain improper terms were to be retained for the purpose of pleasing and flattering his Majesty, the Baptists were found protesting against it; and they gained their object, although suffering the loss of their goods and imprisonment. The way in which Baptists conduct themselves now was as important as at any past period. From those who had at one time denied the authenticity of the Bible we heard a different kind of argument. The facts which it contained were too well substantiated to be denied, and so they endeavoured to fashion it to their own notions and dogmas; this was a step gained [hear]. He was led, a short time since, to visit a monastery, and no books were visible in the room to which he was ushered, except a Bible printed by the British and Foreign Society; he opened it, and found it full of notes and references. When the monk entered, the conversation turned upon the Scriptures: he was fluently conversant with them: to tradition he was willing in some measure to yield, striving to make the Scriptures favour his system. To prove that the worshipping of saints was scriptural, he adduced the passage, "Seeing ye are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses," saying, "Saints observe our motions, therefore they sympathize with us—why, then, not address ourselves to them as to our fellow-men?" He (Mr. Underhill) showed the monk that witnesses, if translated so as to give the meaning of the original, would be martyrs, which would make it, "Seeing ye are compassed about with so great a cloud of martyrs who have borne witness to the faith," &c. The monk acknowledged that the construction thus put upon it was the correct one. This proved how important it was to have literal fidelity [cheers].

The resolution, being put from the chair, was carried unanimously.

The Rev. W. B. BOWERS, of Glandford-street, moved the next resolution:—

That this meeting, deeming it an imperative and sacred duty incumbent upon the Baptist denomination still to support the faithful translations executed by their own missionaries, feels at the same time a Christian pleasure and satisfaction in the gene-

paid by kind, and of course disinterested, friends, to enable them to vote. Many and various were the influences brought into operation, but all to no purpose; the gross poll giving to Major Maclean a majority of fourteen votes, and a much larger majority of voters—a source of so much chagrin that the vicar refused to sanction the adoption of an universal practice on such occasions, viz. the ringing of the bells.—*From a Correspondent.*

THE ENTHRONIZATION OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY took place on Friday, and was attended by nearly all the great county families. The Archbishop was attended by about 200 clergymen.

PROTEST OF THE DEAN OF HEREFORD AGAINST DR. HAMPDEN.—The installation was conducted by Canon Musgrave, the hebdomadary, in opposition to the wishes of the Dean, the Archpresbyter, and Rector of the Cathedral. The Dean handed in a protest, which, it appears, Canon Musgrave refused even to read.

THE BISHOP OF LLANDAFF has, it is stated, refused to institute the Rev. Mr. Sampson to the living of St. Andrew's, in his diocese, because that gentleman is ignorant of the Welsh language. The Lord Chancellor is patron of the benefice.

GROSS CASE OF CLERICAL IMPOSTURE.—The Rev. W. R. Mahon, rector of Rawmarsh, near Rotherham, intending to pass the winter in Ireland, and having no curate, advertised in the *Ecclesiastical Gazette*, in the autumn of 1847, for a substitute. The "Honourable and Reverend B. C. D. F. Fairfax" offered himself as a candidate, and was accepted. Mr. Mahon knew nothing of him personally—had never seen him—did not stay to see him—but started off for Ireland in November. On the eve of the Sunday following, Mr. Fairfax took possession of the rectory, and appeared in the pulpit in the forenoon—tall and slender, dark complexioned, and young—his hair jetty, and his eyes dark and large. He was, moreover, a decided Puseyite. The ladies pronounced him handsome and interesting:—the Bishop of Exeter would have added "orthodox." Somehow or other, it was whispered abroad that he was immensely rich, and of a noble family. To the tradesmen of the parish and neighbourhood he was a liberal and welcome patron; and both great and small were hospitably regaled at the rectory, wine and whisky being continually on the flow. Need we say that he was remarkably popular? A few shook their heads, but the mass applauded. A "cousin" came on a visit to him, clothed in unmentionables, but suspected by the scandalous to be a lady; and about the same time a strange youngster made his appearance at the rectory—a green and gold tiger—who also became the subject of speculation. By the time that Mr. Mahon was returning, the creditors of Mr. Fairfax were becoming clamorous; and no sooner, therefore, had he squared accounts with the rector, than he left Rawmarsh on pretence of a visit to Whiston rectory, and was no more seen—his "cousin" and the tiger disappearing at the same time, and also a large quantity of luggage. Church collections and charity funds, entrusted to his charge, have all been appropriated; and as it is doubtful that he is really a clergyman, parties whom he married are ill at ease, feeling far from certain that they are "man and wife." "It is only just to Mr. Mahon to state," says the *Sheffield Times*, "that to use his own words, 'the references and testimonials, &c., [of Mr. Fairfax,] appeared satisfactory.'" But did Mr. Mahon write to any of the "references," or was he satisfied with their bare "appearance?"

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION IN MANCHESTER.—The really religious members of the Church of England, in Manchester, (says the *Times* of that city,) if church reform be resisted, will probably begin to ask themselves what they would lose were the connexion between Church and State severed altogether, and for ever. In the list of places of worship in Manchester we find,—

Churches connected with the Establishment	39
Baptist Chapels	9
Catholic	6
Independent	17
Methodist, Wesleyan	21
Methodist, New Connexion	4
Methodist, Association	12
Unitarian	4
Welsh Independent	4
Methodist, Primitive	4
Other denominations	19

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A VOICE FROM THE TOMB.—A few miles from Ingatestone (writes a Nonconformist minister) is the village of S—. In the parish there is a building, called by some the parish church, by others Old Peggy's establishment. This building, and the ground on which it stands, have been consecrated, and therefore are sacred and holy. On this consecrated ground a tomb was in the course of erection, and employed thereat was a bricklaying artizan. The rector of the parish, who is hauling up candidates for confirmation, came to the workman, and urged upon him the necessity of sending his children to be confirmed. He replied, he had left them to the care of his wife (who is a member of the Independent church)—and evidently, by his manner, showed a great want of faith in this clearly revealed and important doctrine. The clergyman remonstrated, and the man in the tomb, on consecrated ground, in the presence of God's minister, and in direct opposition to a certain noble Lord, said, "If the bishops had less money, and the poor people more, things would be better for the working man." Moses was once angry, and so was the rector; and, I believe, though on consecrated ground, the sun went down upon his wrath; at least it set upon his bigotry, folly, and rage. He ordered the man to desist—not

to place another brick, if so it would be pulled down; and the man, taking up his implement, went his way. It is only to show the *animus* of the State-churchmen who have little piety and much churchism, that we condescend to notice this and forward it to you. Many more things have been said and done by him. The other day he told a poor boy in the street to deliver an impudent message to the Dissenting minister, telling him he was unfit to teach. The rector alone can lisp the truth. I have not yet joined the Anti-state-church Association, but I now intend doing so, for its right spirit and right views commend themselves to all earnest and Christian minds.

CHURCH-RATES, ST. AUSTELL.—In September last, a meeting for the purpose of making a church-rate was called by the wardens, who have not hesitated to declare their great regret at being compelled to have recourse to so generally unpopular a measure, to which they were compelled by the pertinacity of certain of those gentlemen whom the great Cromwell aptly described as those who were unduly enriched from the community to whom they rendered no corresponding service, and who still find, that by involving their labours in litigation, they increase their own gains. As was reported in your paper about the same time, a meeting of some hundreds of rate-payers was held, when seven persons only, inclusive of the officials, supported the rate in the teeth of the earnest opposition of the meeting. But in consequence of the dangers and expense of an ecclesiastical suit, the parish has been ridden over by this arbitrary and unjust dictum, and two individuals, viz., Mr. Richard Williams and Mr. Samuel Barlow, who have consistently refused to pay the demand, have been visited by the Church in the person of the constable, who has taken in one case more than fifteen times, and in the other more than twenty times the amount of the rate. It may be worthy of remark that although four magistrates signed the order for payment, only one signed the warrant of distress, and he a Whig-made baronet; and like most of their *proteges*, of little or no service but for their dirty work.—*From a Correspondent.*

DIVINE SERVICE (ARMY).—A return has been obtained by the Earl of Arundel of the particulars of the sum of £16,800, charged in the estimates for divine service in the army for the year 1848-9. The items in the recapitulation are as follows:—Under the head of Episcopalian, £3,767 in Great Britain, £2,647 in Ireland, and £7,350 on foreign stations. Under Presbyterian, £292 in Great Britain, £272 in Ireland, and £60 on foreign service; and for Roman Catholic, £709 in Great Britain, £478 in Ireland, and £642 on foreign stations. These sums, with £300 for religious books, and £253 for contingencies, make the total estimate of £16,800. This charge is in addition to the sum of £2,836 6s. 3d. borne on the estimate for staff officers at home and abroad; and which includes the pay and allowances of the commissioned staff chaplains at London, Chatham, Malta, Barbadoes, and the Mauritius.

CONGREGATIONAL PSALMODY.—We understand that Mr. Waite has recently completed his fourth series of instructions and exercises in Psalmody. Mr. Waite's labours in the metropolis commenced, we believe, with a course of gratuitous lectures at the Tabernacle, Spa-fields, Clarendon, Tottenham Court-road, and Aldermanbury Postern Chapels. Many of our leading ministers attended, and the result was, that, by a meeting of the Congregational ministers of London, Mr. Waite was invited to give another course at Finsbury Chapel. That course—cheap in price, elementary in character, and accompanied by specimens of congregational singing that abundantly evidenced the soundness of Mr. Waite's principles—was eminently successful. It was thenceforward understood and felt by numbers that our psalmody was capable of a very considerable improvement—that it might, and should, be made the vehicle of uttering the Divine praise with warmth of heart, intelligence of mind, and harmony of voice. Then came a course embracing Spa-fields, Hackney, Craven, Surrey, and Falcon-square Chapels. Nearly 5,000 persons attended this course. Permanent good is likely to follow, in some of the congregations at least. Old books and old methods have been discarded, and superior tunes, with a better mode of singing, in accordance with Mr. Waite's principles, have been introduced. It should be clearly understood, that little reformation can be effected unless a good tune-book become a portion of the "new library," and is employed regularly with the hymn-book. Mr. Waite's last course included the following chapels:—Mr. Aveling's, Kingsland; Dr. Reed's; Mr. Clayton's, Walworth; Mr. Martin's, Westminster; and the Wesleyan Chapel, Liverpool-road. At the last-mentioned place the President of the Conference was present on one occasion, and opened the service with prayer. We hope this reformation will be welcomed by the whole Wesleyan body, for their psalmody is by no means worthy of their noble hymn-book. Such is a brief history of the psalmody movement so far. And we are happy to know that the interest is not abating, but augmenting; and that, after an aggregate meeting at Exeter-hall, on the 10th of May, Mr. Waite has made arrangements to commence another course, which, we doubt not, will prove as successful and as useful as the previous ones.

FAST TRAIN.—The Great Western Railway morning express-train of Wednesday made the journey from Paddington to Didcot, 53 miles, in 49 minutes 50 seconds; and ran the distance to Bath, 118½ miles, in about 2 hours 25 minutes, including stoppages. The train was drawn by the "Emperor," a new eight-wheeled engine.

RELIGIOUS ANNIVERSARIES.

BAPTIST IRISH SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of this Institution was held at Finsbury Chapel, on Tuesday evening, the 25th ult., and was numerously attended. S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P., took the chair.

The proceedings having been commenced by singing.

The Rev. Mr. Stock (of Chatham) implored the Divine blessing.

The CHAIRMAN then rose and said: He was glad that the meeting of that night was one purely of a religious character; any other would neither produce satisfaction to their own minds, nor advantage to the object they were assembled to promote. There was little hope of any beneficial result recurring to that country, except by the simple declaration of the Gospel of Christ by men who had felt its power in their own souls, and who went forth, not to engage in controversy, but in the simple enunciation of the truth to witness to that power which they had felt in their own happy experience. He had lately had an opportunity of making inquiries with reference to the character of the agents whom this Society employed, from friends of his who knew Ireland well, and he was happy to bear testimony to the fact, that they were simple-hearted men, communicating to those who needed it above all others that instruction the preciousness of which they had themselves realized [cheers]. He was happy to learn that, in the darkest districts of Ireland, the proclamation of the Gospel had not been without its happy fruit. In Connaught, to which they had looked more than to any other part of that country with alarm and anxiety, he was happy to know that the efforts of this Society, and another kindred Institution—the Irish Evangelical Society—had been productive of the most beneficial effects. During the past year, Ireland had suffered from famine of the most severe character, and with it the attendant evil of fever; and it was only those who had visited that country that could form any idea of the sufferings which the people had been called to endure. It was most creditable to them that they had sustained their sufferings as they had done. His own intimate knowledge of the Irish character enabled him to bear testimony to the fact, that there were no people on the face of the earth,—though at times they were excitable,—who endured sufferings with more patience and more kindness of feeling than did the Irish [cheers]. They could not view their own operations in Ireland without regarding them in connexion with the labours of other Institutions; and when they saw the people of Ireland taxed as they were to a large amount, for the support of the religion of one-eighth of the population, they must feel that it would have a tendency to prevent the diffusion of the truth. He felt it to be a responsibility depending upon himself on all occasions, whenever he had an opportunity, to lift up his voice,—to do all he could to remove the burden of the Establishment from Ireland [loud cheers].

The Rev. P. TRESTRAIL then read an abstract of the Report:—

It stated that the Committee had never had to meet their constituents under circumstances so peculiar and trying as those which had distinguished the past year. The Mission itself, in its entirety, had been more than usually prosperous. Death had removed only two of the little band. Nearly all the churches had received encouraging additions, and the facilities of access to the people were increasing every day. Deep, and hitherto almost inveterate, prejudices were giving way to the force of truth and the spirit of Christian love. Last year, the Committee had to report the death of Mrs. Hardeastle, of fever. In July last, her pious and devoted husband followed her to the grave. The loss to the Church in Waterford and to the Society had been very great, and the breach had not yet been repaired. Gentlemen of all parties in Waterford formed a committee to raise a fund for the education of his orphan children, which amounted to £421, the Committee having voted towards it £50. It then detailed the proceedings of the various stations occupied by the Society, and showed the advantages which had resulted from the relief fund. Ireland, it stated, was in a transition state, and the future happiness or misery of that country, for years, greatly depended on the way in which the present crisis was met. Ireland must have more attention from British Churches as well as the British Parliament; the old notion, that anything would do for Ireland, must be abandoned. Both in feeling and in principle there must be more of apostolic zeal, and wisdom, and piety. From the treasurer's account, it appeared that the total receipts, during the past year, amounted to £2,546 12s. 9d.; the expenditure, including a balance due to the treasurer last year of £1,626 12s. 3d., to £4,305 13s. 11d., leaving a balance against the Society of £1,756 1s. 2d. The receipts for the relief fund, including a balance in hand last year of £3,545 17s. 7d., amounted to £4,408 15s. 9d.; the expenditure was £2,103 19s. 8d.; leaving, therefore, a balance in hand of £2,304 16s. 1d.

The Rev. B. STEPHENS, of Manchester, in moving the adoption of the Report, said that the Protestants of England owed to the Catholics of Ireland a debt, which they had not yet begun to pay. The ancient Christianity of the East came through Lyons (as we understood) to this country. St. Patrick had no communication with Rome [hear, hear]. There was scarcely an authentic document belonging to Wales which did not prove that the ancient Britons had resisted the aggressions of Rome. Much was said at the present time of the Popery of Ireland. Who made the Irish Catholics? The English settlers. It took centuries to make them submit to Canterbury when a Romish see. It was said in a book published by Mr. Todd, of Dublin, for Puseyite purposes, that the great fault of St. Patrick was that of making so many bishops. They had one for almost every congregation [laughter, and cheers]. The

duty of Protestants at the present day was to attempt to undo the evil which had been done. They possessed the gospel, and they were bound to send it to Ireland, as they were doing through this Society. There was little in the Society which dazzled, but, as Dr. Paley observed, what the Redeemer described as great in the sermon on the mount was not only not the kind of greatness which the world esteemed, but it was the directly opposite. This Society needed an agency which would constantly keep its claims steadily before the Christian church, and that agency it had in its excellent Secretary [loud cheers].

Rev. CALEB BIRT, in seconding the resolution, said, that it had been his lot to visit Ireland, and although his stay was short, he had travelled over every part of it. He envied not the Englishman who could visit that country without feeling a deep interest in the welfare of its inhabitants. Great was their misery. Their clothes all appeared to have been those which had been cast off by the people of England. It was impossible to describe the wretchedness of their dwellings, or their miseries, arising from their want of food, and that not with reference to the late famine only, but generally. The Irish had a loving heart, and great must be their distress when they beheld the hunger of their children, and were unable to alleviate it. There was no middle class in Ireland to be a reciprocal conductor of sympathy between rich and poor. For miles there was nothing to be seen but the most wretched cabins. The conflicting religious opinions of Roman Catholics and Protestants tended much to aggravate the miseries of Ireland. The Irish were brought to terms with their priests, but they were far distant from God. Depending on ritual observances, they had no true knowledge of Him. Ireland required the friendship of England. Though with a weeping spirit he had read of the sufferings of Ireland through a period of famine and death; yet, when he learned from the Report that, through the agents of this Society, no fewer than 2,000 objects of pity and commiseration had received, day by day, their daily bread, he could not but hope that the prejudices long indulged against the Saxon and Protestant would be melted down, and a way opened up for the diffusion of that bread from heaven which would give life to the world [cheers]. The resolution referred to prayer; let that be offered, and as sure as were the promises of God, so surely would China become what it professed to be, "the celestial empire;" and Ireland, what it was called in legendary lore, "the land of saints." [cheers.]

The resolution was then put and carried.

The Rev. Mr. GARVEY, a deputation from the Irish Evangelical Society, moved the second resolution, as follows:—

That this meeting again records its deep sympathy with the continued sufferings of the Irish poor, and gratefully acknowledges the fact, that so large a measure of temporal relief has been afforded to multitudes, through the funds placed in the hands of the committee for that purpose; that it desires to express unfeigned gratitude to Almighty God for preserving the lives of nearly all the agents during another year of pestilence and death; and would earnestly beseech Him to bless the affecting calamities which in the Divine Providence have fallen on Ireland, to the social and spiritual regeneration of her people.

He remarked that he appeared before them as the representative of the Irish Evangelical Society; he had been selected on account of the fact that, during the two years of famine, he had been appointed to visit Ireland to distribute the charitable fund. In discharge of that duty, he had visited the country four different times, and past through every part of the island, and thus obtained a pretty accurate knowledge of the country. He remarked that he too, as well as his friend, who had before spoken, was a Celt. It had been well said that the Irish were an affectionate people, and he would add, an independent people, for poverty had frequently the effect of making a man independent. As they were forbidden to speak on politics at this meeting, he would not say it was through bad government Ireland was brought to its present state, but he might think what he liked [laughter]; but the fact was that, throughout the nations of Europe there was not a country suffering so much, physically, morally, and spiritually, as the sister country. He would ask, then, what could we do to raise Ireland? It had been declared that the union should be maintained at all hazards; if then it be maintained, he would say let it be a union, let the two countries be equally cared for, and equally governed. If he were speaking to the editors of some of the leading journals in this country, he would say to them, Do not cast oil on the flame now kindling between the two countries: if you be lovers of order, do not endeavour to set the Saxon against the Celt, or the Celt against the Saxon. To do so, was not the way to consolidate the union. It had been said, that England owed a duty to Ireland; since it was the English Henry II. who introduced Popery to Ireland. Let no man say the Irish could not be loyal; had they not been loyal to Popery? Through good report and evil report, had they not been loyal to it? Our efforts must be to make them loyal to Christ. This Society was taking the lead of every other society in Ireland in one respect; that was, in the establishment of schools throughout the country. The characteristic of Popery was, that it governed the whole man by cultivating and leading captive the imagination at the expense of the intellect, and thus was the mind steeled against any further appeal; but the Irish Society, by the establishment of schools, were taking the very best means to gain possession of the youthful mind before it was enslaved by Popery. It was painful to him to read, day by day, charges of ingratitude against the Irish people; they had forgotten, it was said, all that the English had done for them in the time of famine; but the mad speeches of men in Conciliation-hall were not the voice of the Irish people; the Irish

were grateful. He would conclude by expressing his hope, that the recent famine in Ireland was as the dark hour which precedes the dawn, and that a bright day was rising for Ireland, and the time was approaching when it should be proclaimed, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen," to rise no more [loud cheering].

The Rev. J. BRANCH seconded the resolution.

The resolution was then put and carried.

The Rev. F. TRESTRAIL said that, on behalf of the Committee, it became his duty to return to the Chairman their sincere thanks for having so kindly presided on this occasion [loud cheers].

The Rev. Dr. ACWORTH having concluded the meeting by prayer, the assembly separated.

BAPTIST UNION.

The thirty-sixth annual session of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland was held at the Baptist Mission-house, Moorgate-street, on Friday, April 21st, and by adjournment, on Wednesday, April 27th. The attention of the brethren assembled on this occasion was principally directed to the state of the churches, which, in common with almost all religious communions in England, continue to exhibit a languishing indication. The feelings of the Union on this point are so strong, that they adopted an address to the constituent churches, which will immediately issue from the press, and which contains a proposition, that the solemn attention of the churches shall be simultaneously engaged to this subject on Lord's-day, the 11th of June. The Session adopted a petition to the House of Commons for the discontinuance of the English and Irish *Regium Donum*, and expressed their sentiments on the present state of the continent of Europe in the following terms:—

Resolved,—That the Union cannot contemplate the extraordinary changes which have recently taken place on the continent of Europe, without a solemn acknowledgment of the hand of God, and a recognition of their relation to his cause; and that they especially rejoice in the evident pining of the human mind after religious freedom in the measure in which liberty of worship has already been acquired, and in the prospect of the more extended vindication of the rights of conscience.

The Union had the pleasure of receiving the Rev. Amos Sutton, from India, as representative of the Bengal Baptist Association; and, as visitors, introduced by the Rev. Dr. Burns, of Paddington,—the Rev. Eli Noyes, M.A., of Boston; and the Rev. J. Woodman, of Lyndon, Vermont; a deputation from the body of Free Will Baptists in the United States to the General Baptist Association in England.

The public meeting was held on Thursday evening, April 27th, at New Park-street chapel. The Rev. Dr. Murch, the chairman of the Union this year, presided; and the meeting was addressed by the following gentlemen:—The Revs. Eli Noyes, R. Morris, V. Fustrial, C. Stone, and S. Green.

BIBLE TRANSLATION SOCIETY.

The eighth annual meeting of this institution was held at New Park-street Chapel, Southwark, on Wednesday evening last, and was very numerously attended. Thomas Pettress, Esq., occupied the chair, and among the ministers and gentlemen on the platform were Drs. Steane, Acworth, Burns, Revds. T. Edwards, F. Wigan, E. Hull, W. Green, W. B. Bowers, J. Smith, Messrs. H. Kelsall, G. J. Kemp, G. Lowe, F.R.S., C. Burls, J. Webb, and E. B. Underhill.

The business having been commenced by singing, the Rev. T. Wigan, of Lynn, implored the Divine blessing.

The Chairman introduced the business of the meeting in a few introductory observations.

Dr. STEANE, the Secretary, then read the report.

It submitted that the translation and circulation of the word of God should be viewed as a duty, regardless of results. The eminent translators of oriental versions, Carey, Marshman, Chamberlain, and Yates, were satisfied to prosecute their wearisome labours on the ground that it was their calling and duty; and an indescribable satisfaction they no doubt felt as their work was gradually completed [hear, hear]. The faithful and continuous performance of duty, simply because it is duty, was the course to which the supporters of that institution were called. By thus acting they would have the present comfort of a good conscience, and the hope of final acceptance [cheers]. Considerable progress had been made in the translations during the last year. A new edition of the New Testament in Sanscrit was carried down to the end of Acts; and of the Old Testament, a first edition down to Leviticus xxvi., a much larger portion was prepared but not yet printed. In Bengalee, 15,000 copies of the Gospels of Matthew and John had been reprinted, and that of Mark was in the press. A revised edition of the entire Bible had been printed, as far as the end of Leviticus, and a new edition of Isaiah and Daniel. In Hindsee the Gospels and Acts as prepared by Mr. Leslie. The New Testament had also been finished in Hindostanee. The number of volumes issued from the depository during the year was 74,852. In aid of the translations, the committee made two grants of £500 each. They also made a grant of £150 to the General Baptist Missionary Society, towards defraying the expense of printing a new edition of Marshman's Chinese version of the New Testament. The contributions to the Society, during the year, amounted to £1,568 15s. 8d., including a legacy of £19 19s., paid by the executors of the late Mr. Harris, of Bristol. Three other legacies had also been left them, £100 by the late Mr. Ryan, of Leeds; £200 by the late Mr. Walker, of Saffron Walden; and one-third of the property of the late Mrs. Keighly, of Hampstead, sworn under £3,000. The last two would not be available, it was expected, for a considerable period. The report concluded by expressing a hope that in the good providence of God, the friends of the Society might be enabled to contribute more largely during another year. Their Society had, in common with others, suffered from the depression of commerce, but in subscriptions not more than £100 [hear, hear]. They felt it most in the absence of large donations, such as had been given in previous years.

The Rev. EDMUND HULL, of Watford, in a short speech, moved the first resolution:—

That this meeting desires to express a lively sense of thankfulness to God for the diligence with which he has enabled their brethren employed in translating and circulating the sacred Scriptures in India and China, to pursue their important work, adopts the report now read; and directs it to be printed under the care of the committee.

The Rev. AMOS SUTTON, a missionary of the General Baptists, from Orissa, seconded the resolution. Although he belonged to another section, it had been his happiness to associate with those more especially connected with this Society. He had often laboured with them shoulder to shoulder [cheers]. He need not speak of their diligence; their works bore sufficient testimony to their untiring labours. He would bear witness to their fidelity, having tested every word in their Bengalee edition of the Scriptures, and could safely assert it to be a most faithful translation [cheers]. The speaker, in alluding to the report, said, that in circulating the Bible it need never be asked if good resulted. The Bible might be compared to any of the great natural gifts of God: the sun, for instance—no one ever thought of asking if the sun was a blessing to man. He could not live without it [cheers]. Some years ago he gave a Bible to a drover who could not read, but it being read to him, was the means of his conversion, and that of many others; the drover himself had become a preacher of the gospel, and three others by his means [hear, hear]. He could give a great number of cases of a similar kind, but would forbear. There was a class of people in Orissa who offered human sacrifices. Children were bought up and fattened for slaughter [sensation]. The British Government were exerting themselves nobly for the abolition of this practice, but at present with very partial success. He had forty of these children under his own charge, who had been rescued from this murderous rite [hear, and cheers]. Among those children was a very rough and unruly boy, to whom they had given the name of Abraham [laughter]—not, however, because he was unruly [loud and continued laughter]. For a long time neither himself nor wife could do anything with the boy; but they watched over him carefully, and prayed much for him, until they had the pleasure of seeing him as tractable and amiable as he was formerly the reverse; and he died in a blessed hope of eternal life, having for weeks before his death been a most diligent student of the pages of inspired wisdom [cheers]. These were some of the fruits of Bible distribution in heathen lands: his most earnest desire was, that all men should possess the volume of heavenly truth, and through it find a Saviour. The reverend gentleman concluded by cordially seconding the resolution.

E. B. UNDERHILL, Esq., supported it. On coming forward he was received with much cordiality. It was unnecessary for him to speak of the necessity of circulating the word of God; facts spoke much louder than any words he could utter. Luther was preceded in his work by two German Baptists. These men laid hold of this truth: for it they struggled, and for it they died [hear, hear]. Their case was not peculiar; Baptists of the same stamp were found in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries translating the word of God. There was also now in existence a very creditable version of the Scriptures, in Dutch, made about 320 years ago, by persons holding Baptist views. In consequence of persecution, they were continually going from place to place, but took their printing press with them; and that they might be unmolested in their undertaking, they took a boat on the open sea, and there completed and printed their version of the Scriptures [cheers]. When the version by order of King James was made, and certain improper terms were to be retained for the purpose of pleasing and flattering his Majesty, the Baptists were found protesting against it; and they gained their object, although suffering the loss of their goods and imprisonment. The way in which Baptists conduct themselves now was as important as at any past period. From those who had at one time denied the authenticity of the Bible we heard a different kind of argument. The facts which it contained were too well substantiated to be denied, and so they endeavoured to fashion it to their own notions and dogmas; this was a step gained [hear]. He was led, a short time since, to visit a monastery, and no books were visible in the room to which he was ushered, except a Bible printed by the British and Foreign Society; he opened it, and found it full of notes and references. When the monk entered, the conversation turned upon the Scriptures: he was fluently conversant with them: to tradition he was willing in some measure to yield, striving to make the Scriptures favour his system. To prove that the worshipping of saints was scriptural, he adduced the passage, "Seeing ye are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses," saying, "Saints observe our motions, therefore they sympathize with us—why, then, not address ourselves to them as to our fellow-men?" He (Mr. Underhill) showed the monk that witnesses, if translated so as to give the meaning of the original, would be martyrs, which would make it, "Seeing ye are compassed about with so great a cloud of martyrs who have borne witness to the faith," &c. The monk acknowledged that the construction thus put upon it was the correct one. This proved how important it was to have literal fidelity [cheers].

The resolution, being put from the chair, was carried unanimously.

The Rev. W. B. BOWERS, of Glandford-street, moved the next resolution:—

That this meeting, deeming it an imperative and sacred duty incumbent upon the Baptist denomination still to support the faithful translations executed by their own missionaries, feels at the same time a Christian pleasure and satisfaction in the gene-

ral circulation of the word of God in the various languages of mankind, by whomsoever effected.

India, he said, might well have the chief attention of the Society; but there was a growing feeling in certain bosoms that its attention should not be entirely restricted to India [cries of "Hear, hear"]. But he was sure that the committee would not be backward in this matter if they had funds at their command; they would soon look to the continent of Europe [hear, hear], where their labours were much needed.

The Rev. ELI NOYES, missionary, rose to second the resolution. He could testify, with his brother Sutton, to the correctness of the translations made by that Society's agents. He had stood upon the graves of some of the earlier translators in India, and had his youthful spirit fired to imitate their glorious example, and then repose at their side [cheers]. Those honoured men were gone, whose sympathies were wider than the noble Ganges, and their fragrance sweeter than the spices of Ceylon or the incense of Java [loud cheering]. Their names would live longer than the mummies he had that day been witnessing. They would live on earth and in heaven too [cheers]. They were not ashamed to be consistent [hear], and they gave the world faithful translations. When translations were made from various languages, mistakes were sure to happen. An American of the name of Flint once went to France, and when he arrived there they translated his name into words meaning the stone of a gun. Their word for stone signifying Peter also, when he returned home the Americans thought they had a right to translate his French name, which they did, into Mr. Petergun [loud laughter]. He left home a plain flint, and returned a gun ready primed [a laugh]. If we would have the translation pure, it must be made from the original tongue [hear, and cheers]. He need say very little on the value of the Scriptures to the nations of the earth. We gave them the best boon in our possession, and that was above all price [hear, hear]. The Bible had blessed the nations, wherever it had been received, by stimulating the mind, and exciting to bold actions in science and literature, as well as training the soul for heaven. Let all use their best endeavours to circulate the Bible, as it comes from the ever-living God [loud cheers].

The resolution was unanimously passed, and the collection was made at this stage of the proceedings.

The Rev. J. WEBB, of Ipswich, then proposed a list of gentlemen to be the office-bearers and committee for the ensuing year. Those who gave largely to the "Bible Society," and contributed but little to the "Translation Society," should reverse the order of things [hear, hear]. They ought to know which distributed the most wholesome food, and assist accordingly [hear]. After making some excellent and pertinent remarks relative to the present political and religious state of the nations of Europe, the rev. gentleman resumed his seat amid much applause.

The Rev. CHARLES ROOM, of Portsea, seconded the motion in a sentence, when it was put and carried. The Doxology was then sung, and the meeting separated.

THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this institution was held on Thursday morning, in the large room at Exeter-hall. The attendance was numerous and highly respectable. Among those on the platform, which was crowded to excess, we observed the following:—S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P., Joseph Tritton, Esq., Thomas Tanner, Esq., W. L. Smith, Esq., J. H. Allen, Esq., G. Lowe, Esq., F.R.S., H. Kelsall, Esq. (Rochdale), G. Foster, Esq. (Sabbden), G. Stevenson, Esq., Thomas Pettress, Esq.; the Rev. Drs. Cox, Steane, Acworth, Godwin, Murch, Hoby; the Rev. Eli Noyes, M.A. (Boston, U.S.), Rev. J. Woodman, (Vermont, U.S.), Rev. Messrs. Clarke and Newbigin, from Western Africa, Rev. Messrs. Brook, Stovel, Groser, Russell, C. M. Birrell (Liverpool); J. Edwards, (Nottingham), &c. &c.

At ten o'clock precisely, the chair was taken by JOHN HENDERSON, Esq., of Glasgow. The proceedings of the day were opened by singing the 149th Psalm, after which the Rev. J. Hinton offered up a suitable prayer, at the close of which the Rev. Dr. STEANE introduced the Chairman to the meeting as an elder of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

The CHAIRMAN then addressed the meeting at some length, dwelling upon the honour of holding fellowship with a denomination whose churches were among the first to enter the mission field, and who could boast of such men as Pearce, Fuller, Ryland, Carey, and Marshman; Ward, Hall, Foster, and many more such kindred spirits, who had formed the ornament and defence of their denomination, and had been blessings to the universal church. Christian friends, at no period was there such a call to missionary working as there is at the present time. It seems to me that, by the recent events of his providence, God is specially summoning his church, in all its departments, to renewed and increased activity, prayerfulness, and liberality in the extension of his cause. He is shaking the nations, and removing in many lands obstacles to the introduction of the gospel of truth, as well as granting facilities for its spread in heathen climes unknown before. What an encouragement it is to us when the events of Divine Providence are evidently seen co-operating with the calls of the Divine Word! And, if the church shall prove faithful to her trust, the indications will soon be greatly multiplied that the day is not far distant when the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The SECRETARY was then called on to read the Report of the Society, from which we have collected the following brief facts:—

The Society has agents in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America.

In Continental India it has thirty-five missionaries, and sixty-seven native teachers and preachers. In Ceylon, and other East Indian islands, it has six missionaries, and upwards of fifty native teachers. In connexion with all the churches in this field are upwards of 1,800 members, and in the schools are 4,390 children, the number of schools in India being 102.

At the twenty-four stations in Bengal there were added to the churches in 1845, 87 members; in 1846, 162 members; in 1847, 297 members.

Ten years ago, in 1837, the number of missionaries in India dependent upon the Society was twelve, and of native teachers about fifteen.

The volumes of Scripture printed up to 1837, was 240,065; between 1837 and 1847 the number printed amounted to 503,205—in all, 743,270. Within the last year 74,000 volumes more have issued from the press.

The missionaries connected with the Society have (among their incidental labours) written and published fourteen grammars, and nine dictionaries, mostly of languages which previously had no such elementary works.

The churches in Jamaica, formed under the care of agents sent out by the Society, contain about 34,000 members. The number of ministers in Jamaica in 1847, and of members connected with the churches, was double the number connected with the mission in 1837.

In the Bahamas, the Society has three missionaries, fourteen native teachers, and there are in the churches about 2,800 members, and in the day-schools 750 scholars. This progress has been made since 1832, when the mission there was begun.

Within the last seven years missions have been commenced in Africa, in Haiti, in Trinidad, in France, in Madras, and in Canada.

In Africa many thousand people have been clothed; and parts of the New Testament printed in the Isubu, Fernandian, and Dewalla tongues.

In Canada, twelve ministers are aided by the Society, and preach the gospel in extensive destitute districts.

In France, the New Testament in Breton has just been completed and printed.

In 1837, the Society had one general printing establishment. Since then four others have been established.

The number of institutions for training native agents, connected with the Society, has increased in nearly an equal degree. Besides those in India the Society has one in Jamaica and another at Montreal.

The missionaries and native teachers more or less dependent upon the Society, have increased from about 85 to about 225 within the last ten years, not including (in this latter number) Jamaica: an increase twofold of European missionaries, and threefold of native teachers. For the support of these agents, the Society has not more than £16,000 a year available.

Nine hundred churches collected for the Society in Great Britain and Ireland last year: but upwards of 200 of these have (as yet) a collection only every other year. Nearly 150 of them seem to make no other systematic effort. If all would form auxiliaries, and if all would collect every year, the Society would be relieved of its difficulties.

The Society has not as yet 3,000 subscribers of 10s. and upwards.

The total income of the Society for the year ending April, 1848, was under £23,000, a sum inadequate to support the present number of missionaries, carry on the schools, and provide for the expense of the large numbers of volumes of the Scriptures printed. Increased contributions are required even for our present work.

In India, Delhi, with a population of 180,000, has but one missionary; Patna, with 300,000, but one; Ceylon, two-thirds as large as Ireland, has but two missionaries. All India, with 150 millions of people, has fewer Christian teachers than many English counties.

Haiti needs help, and has but one missionary; Trinidad has but two; Dacca and Allahabad—old stations of the Society in India—are vacant and need help; as does Barisal and Calcutta.

The total number of our missionaries all over the world, is not larger than the number of the agents of the London City Mission.

Very many of these wants would be supplied (so far as funds can supply them) if the income of the Society for ordinary purposes averaged one penny a week from each of the members of our churches. A penny a month collected by each scholar connected with our Sunday-schools would raise £7,500 a year.

Will the friends of missions remember that their gifts are to be divided among upwards of 200 stations, and that they are spent in four continents, for the support of more than 200 labourers, each of whom is deserving of and needs liberal aid.

The Rev. JAMES HINTON called on the meeting to sing a hymn, and the Rev. JAMES CAMPBELL, the pastor of a church of Edinburgh, having supplicated a throne of grace that a blessing might descend rich and refreshing on the meeting and on the labourers of the Society,

The Rev. JOHN JORDAN DAVIES, of Bootle, near Liverpool, moved the first resolution, approving of the report, in an appropriate speech.

Rev. JOHN CLARKE, late missionary from Africa, seconded the resolution, and in doing so, gave some interesting particulars of the mission to that continent. Those who laboured in that benighted country had much to contend with, but in the midst of every privation, God had given them souls for their hire and seals to their ministry—many having been converted to Christ, some of whom died rejoicing in the truth. There the messengers of Divine truth did not labour in vain—God did not allow them to wait even for seven years, as there were numbers who associated in a Church capacity, and who, Sabbath after Sabbath, commemorated the dying love of the Lamb. Since his arrival in London he had the pleasing account of an African, a man of intelligence, who had been converted to God, and baptized on the first of last January. He saw that person in Fernandian. He beheld him in all his native ignorance and deformity—he was, with him-

self and Dr. Pearce, receiving religious instruction. The moment the desired change took place, he immediately relinquished all his evil habits and customs, his great anxiety being to hear the missionaries of the cross; and how delightful was it to hear of that poor African's decision of character in submitting to the ordinance of Christian baptism! When he reflected on the moral condition of the Africans, when he considered the fearful idolatry in which they were involved, when he called to mind their superstitious practices, nothing less than that power which was Almighty could break the chains by which they were bound and fettered. Africa was a place of great temporal misery—full of the habitations of cruelty. He felt totally at a loss to give any adequate description of the sufferings of its inhabitants. Infanticide prevailed to a great extent. Not only were the infants put to death, but often the mothers who bore them. Not unfrequently, when the mother died, and the babe was too young to be reared without a mother's milk, when the corpse of the parent was laid in the grave the babe was placed in her arms, thus interring the living child with the dead mother [sensation]. Adon, however, was opened, and missionaries could now go forth to impart instruction with comparative ease and safety. Having nothing about them either to excite the cupidity, or to alarm the fears of the natives, they can travel without fear of molestation, even among the most desperate. At one time he was among a tribe of reputed cannibals, who not only destroyed their species with delight, but who fed on the bodies of their slaughtered enemies. In one instance he counted more than 300 human skulls. On a tree, which was fixed in the middle of a house, and which raised its head towards the roof, there were four rows of skulls—thirty-three in each row; at the other end of the house an altar had been erected of human skulls and clay, upon which sacrifices were offered; and while frequently, on the death of a chief, the relations would be satisfied with the offerings of goats or fowls, yet it was notorious that human lives were often immolated to the manes of the dead. He went by a place of sacrifice, where he saw the trunk of a female, who was sent, as stated, after her husband to the other world, because of a supposed intimation that the husband required more of his women and slaves. It was impossible for him then to go into any lengthened statement as to the moral and spiritual condition of the natives of Africa, but he was sure if the meeting felt for them as they ought, as children of the same Father, as their brethren, as those for whom the Saviour shed his precious blood, they would use every possible exertion to send them that gospel which alone can save the soul and sanctify the character. He rejoiced to have it in his power to acknowledge the kind aid which was afforded in the way of apparel: with his own hands he had the high privilege to clothe some hundreds of naked creatures with those garments which had been sent from England, and Scotland, and Jamaica. He had it in his power at one time to cover the naked bodies of wretched slaves who had been brought in a slave-ship to the harbour of Fernandian: the distribution of apparel among those people produced the liveliest gratitude and the best effects. There was no possible ground for discouragement; success was certain; those engaged in the good work had the sympathy and the prayers of not only thousands, but tens of thousands of God's dear children; they had their hands so strengthened on every side, they were willing to labour, to suffer, and to die, to promote that cause which was for the glory of God [hear]. He was recently in Jamaica, having travelled from one station to another—in all, nearly 1,000 miles—and had an opportunity of seeing the state of the churches there, in whose welfare he was deeply interested, being the land in which he first laboured; and how grateful to God did he feel to witness the mighty change that had taken place among the people of that clime—a change in their temporal as well as in their spiritual condition. According to a late land census, it appeared there are 23,000 landholders in Jamaica [hear, hear]; and so diligent were the people become, as to build houses, to furnish them, and to purchase horses or mules to convey the goods to market for sale. In Jamaica there are many thousands of devoted Christians; but the great want was devoted men of God, who would go from house to house, day by day, and week after week, to instruct the people in those things which concern their everlasting destiny; not but there was in that land many such persons, men who travelled from fifty to seventy miles a week, visiting both old and young, administering comfort and consolation to all; but an increase in that useful class was particularly needed [hear, hear].

The SECRETARY having read the last account,

Mr. Peto said, he felt it his duty to make a few remarks on the financial position of the Society [hear, hear]. The year that had just terminated had been one of very serious trial to the Committee of Management. They, however, desired to record their deep thankfulness to Almighty God that the cloud which appeared so heavy had dissipated, that the sun of God's favour had again shone on them, being enabled to appear before them under the pleasing circumstance, that only £1,000 had been added to their debt [hear, hear]. At one period of the year they were more than £10,000 behind, which seriously perplexed them, but the Lord appeared in their behalf. He did great things for them, whereof they were glad. It was, however, his duty to place before the meeting their real position. He could assure them the most rigid economy had been practised in every department, but still there was more to be done than the means at their command would enable them to accomplish. There were but two courses of action open to them: the one was to

press on their missionary brethren the reduction of expense, but the next consideration was how to effect this without circumscribing the sphere of their labours. The first was carried beyond that which ought to have been done, and which occasioned unmixed regret to the Committee. But this reduction could not proceed farther, as to do so would make it impossible to secure the efficiency of missionary exertion. It was then proposed to obliterate from the sphere of action one place of labour, where the expenditure exceeded £2,000 a-year, but after earnest prayer to God, the Committee came to the decision that they could not take any such responsibility on themselves; that it was with their friends and the churches throughout the country to determine that point; that with them should rest the sin of any relinquishment, and not with the managers. At our last meeting we felt it our duty to decide to bring this matter before you; but before we did so, we also felt it our duty, in the sight of God, to endeavour ourselves to meet a portion of this deficiency, and to do what we could as to the future sustentation of the funds. At the last committee meeting, the Committee, officers, and honorary members subscribed £1,200 [hear, hear] towards this deficiency. It was now with that meeting, and with the churches to consider, shall those things continue? The responsibility was to rest with them, and not with the Committee [hear, hear].

The Rev. JOHN ALDIS, of London, in proposing the second resolution, said there was no ground for despondency, assured, as he was, that there never was an earnest effort made to advance the cause of God which was not accompanied with his blessing. There was every reason to rejoice, instead of murmuring; for what he had done they were bound to prostrate themselves before his throne in humble acknowledgments of his mercies.

The Rev. Dr. MORISON, of Brompton, seconded the resolution.

A collection was then made in the room, and among the names announced were those of Joseph Tritton, Esq., W. L. Smith, Esq., and the chairman, each for £100 [great cheering]. The total contributed was £1,703 [renewed cheering].

The subsequent resolutions being moved and seconded by the Rev. Thomas Pottinger, of London, the Rev. William Arthur, late Wesleyan Missionary in the Mysore, and now of Paris, the Rev. John Webb, of Ipswich, and Joseph Tritton, Esq., and a vote of thanks being presented to the Chairman for presiding on the occasion, the Rev. Dr. Cox closed the interesting proceedings of the day with a short prayer, after which the vast assembly separated.

GRANTS OF THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON EDUCATION.—At a meeting of the Synod of the English Presbyterian Church at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Professor Lorimer read a report from the School Committee, which stated that in two years seventeen day-schools had been established. Almost all the schools had increased in attendance—the increase of pupils during the year being not less than 500; and the internal efficiency of the schools had also improved. With reference to the Government grant, it had been found that very few of their schools were in a condition to receive grants, most of them being held either in parts of churches or in buildings rented for the purpose, which were insuperable objections. An interview had been sought and obtained by the committee with Dr. Kay Shuttleworth, with the view of obtaining an alteration of the existing regulations, but not the slightest modification could be obtained; indeed the applications for aid were so numerous, that unless the parliamentary grant be extended, the regulations must be made more stringent. The committee therefore urged that means should be taken for placing as soon as possible their various schools in such a position that they might be enabled to obtain the advantages of the Government grant; unless they did so, it was obvious that the recent measure would be injurious instead of beneficial to the schools in connexion with their church. The report was eventually agreed to.

LIBEL.—On Saturday, in the Court of Common Pleas, Mr. Healy, of the *Medical Times*, gained a verdict with 40s. damages, against Mr. Wakley, of the *Lancet*, in an action for libel. Mr. Justice Maule, in summing up, laid chief stress upon the phrase "a briefless quack secretary," as applied to the plaintiff, observing, that to say a barrister was "briefless" was not a civil thing, though it would not be libellous; but to combine it with the term "quack" conveyed an imputation clearly libellous.

REMARKABLE PONY.—Mr. Sharp, farmer, Newton of Kiltarn, has in his possession a small Highland pony, whose history is certainly somewhat extraordinary. This beautiful little animal was first brought from Orkney, to Cellardyke, in Fifeshire, in a fishing-boat. He was then full grown, but his age was not known. He was purchased by Mr. Sharp's late father, by whom he was used as a riding pony for many years; next by his son, who is forty-five years younger; afterwards by his grandchildren, the youngest of whom is eighty-five years younger; and lastly by his great-granddaughter, who is a hundred and seven years younger. The most remarkable circumstance connected with this pony is, that notwithstanding his extreme age, he is still lively and vigorous, and could trot at the rate of ten miles an hour, on a good road, with ease. The late Lord President Hope, in 1822, informed a friend of mine that he had then a horse forty-six years old; still I question if this famous charger ever attained the age of little Donald, or performed the same services to four generations.—*Correspondent of Inverness Courier.*

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

PEMBROKE.—On Friday, April 21, Mr. Ebenezer Edwards, late student at the Baptist Academy, Haverfordwest, was recognised as pastor over the Baptist church at Pembroke. On Thursday evening the Rev. T. Davies, Marloes, preached. Friday morning the introductory discourse was delivered by the Rev. D. L. Pugh, Pembroke Dock; the Rev. D. Davies and H. West proposed the usual questions to the church and minister; the Rev. — Edwards, of Carew, offered the recognition prayer; and the Rev. David Davies gave a faithful and affectionate charge to the minister, from Rev. ii. 10, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." At six in the evening, the Revs. J. Rees, of Myrtletwy, and H. Morgans, preached. The devotional services were conducted by the Revs. D. L. Pugh, T. Davies, — Fisher, of Pembroke (Independent), Anthony, — B.A., of Tenby (Independent), — Jenkins, of Haverfordwest, and E. Edwards. We are happy to find that Mr. Edwards enters on his ministry in the above place with encouraging prospects of success.

A JUVENILE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL AUXILIARY to the Baptist Missionary Society has been formed at Kingston-on-Thames.

FREE-WILL BAPTISTS.—A deputation of the Free-Will Baptists of America, to the General Baptist Churches in Great Britain, arrived in England on Tuesday night week, and are now in London. The Rev. Eli Noyes is at the head of the deputation.

HULL SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION.—The twenty-ninth anniversary of the Hull Sunday-school Union was held on Monday week. The attendance of children was large, and the intelligence evinced by many in answer to the questions put to them by the respective ministers, such as to give satisfactory proof that the arduous labours of the teachers had not been spent in vain. The annual meeting was held at Fish-street Chapel in the evening, the building being crowded with the Sunday-school teachers and the friends of the Union. R. Wilbe, Esq., was called to the chair. The Rev. James Sibree read a letter from James Henwood, Esq., treasurer of the Union ever since its formation, in 1819, stating that he felt himself called upon to retire. The report stated that in Hull there were 22 schools, 643 teachers (333 males, 310 females), 3,822 children (1,842 boys, 1,980 girls), and 56 adults. In the country there are 125 schools, 2,673 teachers (1,524 males, 1,149 females), 9,863 children (5,024 boys, 4,839 girls), and 12 adults; making a grand total of 147 schools, 3,316 teachers, 13,685 children, and 68 adults. Teachers, formerly scholars, 342 male and 391 female; teachers, members of Christian churches, 1,094 male and 867 female. Able to read the Scriptures, 3,707 boys and 3,644 girls. Number of volumes in the libraries, 9,951. Average attendance during 1847, 4,534 boys and 5,507 girls. There is a balance due to the treasurer, which a special effort is now making to liquidate. The speakers were the Rev. T. Stratten, Thomas Holmes, Esq., the newly-appointed treasurer, the Rev. William McConkey, the Rev. E. Morley, G. Wilkinson, Esq., the Rev. W. F. Stuart, the Rev. Mr. Donald, the Rev. J. Brown.

BRIXHAM, DEVONSHIRE.—The Rev. Moses Saunders, having resigned his charge of the second Baptist Church at Haworth, Yorkshire, in November last, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the Baptist Church at Brixton, Devonshire, and has commenced his pastoral labours at the latter place.

PRESTON, LANCASHIRE.—On Good Friday, the Rev. William Walters, late of Horton-college, Yorkshire, was ordained as the pastor of the Baptist church and congregation worshipping in Leeming-street Chapel. The Rev. Mr. Slade, Independent minister, commenced the services by reading and prayer, after which the Rev. D. R. Stevens, of Manchester, delivered a very eloquent and able discourse on the constitution of a Christian church; and the Rev. H. Dowson, of Bradford, a solemn and interesting charge to the minister. The Rev. Mr. Ethridge, of Bolton, closed the service by prayer; after which the friends adjourned to the Red Lion hotel, where dinner was provided; and during the afternoon several excellent speeches were delivered by various ministers. The company at tea was very numerous, and an extra room was engaged for their accommodation. In the evening, the Rev. Mr. Bamber, of Littlemoor, introduced the services by reading and prayer; the Rev. J. J. Davies, of Liverpool, addressed the church; and the Rev. J. Williams, of Walsal, the congregation. All the services were well attended. Mr. Walters' prospects are very encouraging. It is not generally known that Preston, with a population of 70,000 inhabitants, is the chief seat of the English Jesuits. They have here above twenty monks, and about the same number of (nuns) Sisters of Charity, with numerous priests, daily influencing the inhabitants. Their chapels are much larger, and more numerous attended, than any other denomination.

STOCKPORT.—On Friday, the 21st of April, the ordination of the Rev. A. Clarke, late of Lancashire Independent College, took place in Orchard-street Chapel, Stockport. The services were commenced by the Rev. J. Thornton, of Stockport, who read the Scriptures and offered up prayer. The introductory discourse, on the nature of a Christian church, was delivered by the Rev. R. Fletcher, of Manchester; the usual questions were proposed by the Rev. N. K. Pugsley, of Stockport; the ordination prayer was offered by the Rev. J. Sutcliffe, of Ashton; and the charge was given by the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, of the Lancashire Independent College. In the morning the chapel was completely crowded, many persons

standing in the aisles, at the doors, and on the stairs of the pulpit. To provide more ample accommodation, application was made to the committee of the Stockport Sunday-school for the loan of their great room, which was kindly granted, and in the evening the congregation assembled in that place to the number of twelve or thirteen hundred. The Rev. J. A. James, of Birmingham, then gave to the church some most faithful, appropriate, and affectionate counsels. The interesting services of the day seemed to produce upon all who attended them deep and salutary impressions. The most perfect harmony exists between the new pastor and his flock, and there appears to be very pleasing prospects of usefulness.

GRANTHAM.—Mr. J. Basfett, Independent minister of this town, who had announced his intention of removing at Midsummer next, has, at the urgent and unanimous request of his people, consented to continue his labours among them.

BRIGHTON.—On Sunday, March 26, the Rev. F. Allin preached his farewell sermons at the Grand Parade Chapel, Brighton. In the course of the sermon in the morning, he stated—"We have reason to believe that at least 160 souls have been born again in connexion with the cause we have established. Into our church, which was formed March 26, 1844, 200 members have been admitted." In the evening, the chapel was crowded, and numbers left unable to gain admission. The sermon was addressed to the congregation. On Friday, April 21, a tea meeting was held at the rooms used for the Sabbath-school in connexion with the chapel, the object of which was publicly to present to Mr. Allin a token of affection and esteem. The room was crowded, and when the tables were removed, a hymn was sung and prayer offered. Mr. Cave, in the name of the church and congregation, presented to Mr. and Mrs. Allin a handsome silver tea service. It is a pleasing circumstance that upwards of 100 members of the congregation contributed towards the fund. Mr. Allin returned thanks. Several members of the church addressed the meeting, one of whom stated, that four members of his family were brought to Jesus through the instrumentality of their late pastor.—*From a Correspondent.*

THE CHARTIST ASSEMBLY.—Monday being appointed for the congregation of the delegates in the lecture-room of the Literary and Scientific Institution, John-street, Fitzroy-square, many of the leaders in the recent "demonstration" on Kennington-common reappeared on this their former arena. Mr. Feargus O'Connor and Mr. Cuffay were, however, absent. Mr. W. Dixon was called to the chair. Mr. Clarke announced that he had received a letter from Mr. Mitchell, of Dublin, stating that though he had been elected as delegate for Rochdale, he did not think he should be able to take his seat in the National Assembly. The chairman announced that the object of the present National Assembly was to memorialize her Majesty to call such ministers to her councils as would adopt as the basis of their measures the principles embodied in the "People's Charter." Capt. O'Brien said that, in accordance with the invitation of the late convention, he had been deputed, together with Mr. Doheney, by the Irish Confederation, to state that the confederation had studied the statute commonly known as the Convention Act, and had come to the opinion that, under existing circumstances in Ireland, it would not be prudent to send delegates from Ireland to this National Assembly. He had therefore resolved to forward to the Englishmen who had chosen him as their delegate, his resignation of that trust and honour; and after making this announcement, he should withdraw, with urgently recommending the Assembly to organize a well-arranged agitation in this country: it was determined such an agitation should be pursued in Ireland. A vote of thanks to the retiring delegates was then agreed to. A long discussion then ensued on the question raised of securing the publication of a full and accurate report of the proceedings of the Assembly. It was strenuously asserted that the organ of the Chartists—their own journal, the *Northern Star*—had failed to discharge its duty. A committee was in the end appointed to inquire and report to the Assembly as to the best means by which the discussions of the delegates should be conveyed to the public. The next question raised was as to the validity of the election of Mr. Charles Macarthy, and after a somewhat acrimonious disputation, it was resolved by a majority of 12 to 9, that as due notification had not been given, his election was null and void. Some further formal business was then disposed of, and the Assembly adjourned at five o'clock until nine o'clock on Tuesday. Mr. Bond Hughes, the Government short-hand writer, was in close attendance during the whole of the day.

A handsome silver salver has been purchased by subscription among the parishioners of Ewelme, Oxon, and presented to Dr. Hampden, late rector of that parish.

THE EARL OF CHESTERFIELD v. DUNCOMBE.—In this case his honour a few days since made a decree for specific performance of a covenant for further security. Mr. Stuart, on Friday, moved that the proceedings under the decree should be stayed pending the appeal. He (the learned counsel) was in possession of an affidavit by the medical gentleman who attended Mr. Duncombe, which stated that, though up to February last Mr. Duncombe was seriously ill, yet since that time his health was greatly improved, and though he had been advised to remain a few weeks longer at Sidmouth, yet he might be pronounced convalescent. The Vice-Chancellor refused to accede to the application.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MERTHYR CHARTISTS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I feel it to be my bounden duty, being at present an inhabitant of this densely populated manufacturing district, and a loyal subject of the Crown, to circulate, through the medium of your gigantic periodical, the orderly, patient, and peaceful conduct of the vast multitudes who have repeatedly during the last few weeks congregated here to define the principles, and discuss the merits and claims of the People's Charter. It is obvious that the most enlightened and respectable Chartists are becoming thoroughly indoctrinated into the great principles of moral force. At their last meeting they most emphatically proclaimed moral force to be the weapon, if vigorously and adroitly wielded by the millions, adapted and destined to effectuate every desirable political renovation.

I have witnessed, with considerable pain, not merely the stoic indifference of some of the middle classes, but their manifest disapprobation of the conscientious and peaceful movements of the working classes. This, doubtless, has been excited by the painful recollections of past physical demonstrations in this and the adjoining county.

But I am happy to find that, not only in this town, but in other large and influential towns in England, steps are taken, and energetic efforts are being put forth, to amalgamate and consolidate the middle and lower classes in one mighty, enlightened, and advancing phalanx, which shall bear down before its moral weight and grandeur every iniquitous and supercilious obstruction to the realization of civil and religious liberty in its divinest forms.

The present House of Commons, with Lord John at its head, appears, to my sober reflections, to be quite incorrigible—impervious to all the most rational and touching appeals of humanity and of justice. There are no other signs in their Parliamentary horizon but those of progressive callousness, studied chicanery, and a reckless determination to drive their present House of Bubbles and of Shams to speedy and inevitable destruction. The teeming millions of people, comprehending varied classes, are daily maturing, in the depth of their enlightened convictions, and in the intensity of their desires, to hail with sober but enthusiastic joy the approaching downfall of the present sneering oligarchical Parliament.

Though we may differ as to the distinctive principles and merits of the People's Charter, as to the nature and the extent of national changes, yet we must be aware of the urgent necessity for some generous concessions, some important reformations—that the suffrages of the people should be greatly extended, so that they may be empowered to elect such men as shall boldly and faithfully represent their righteous claims in the senate of their country—men touched with the sympathies and distresses of oppressed and insulted humanity—men that shall stand unshackled on the floor of the House, consecrating their time and energies to accomplish the legitimate purposes for which they were delegated—in breaking the iron rod of civil and religious oppression—in defining the restricted designs of civil governments, and in working the complicated machinery of this mighty empire in harmony with the great principles of eternal truth and justice.

The Government of this country are sadly mistaken if they imagine that any formidable array of soldiers, cannon, bludgeons, &c., will succeed in quenching the enlightened and growing convictions of the assembled masses—their thoughts of truth and justice will survive all physical demonstrations, and advance onward in their ennobling conquests to the sceptre of universal empire. I sincerely hope that in Merthyr the sturdy but somewhat fiery sons of Gwalla will maintain their present honourable name, and continue (in the spirit of allegiance to the powers that be) to advocate, with unflinching step, and unabated ardour, the great principles of their political faith.

Let them, at their meetings, be prepared to greet in good faith the presence of the blue-coat men, and invite their good-humoured superintendent again to take the chair to preside over their peaceful and united deliberations. This is the way to place your political Goliath in the dust. The pebble of immutable and eternal truth must prevail when thus flung from the people's moral sling.

Yours very respectfully,
Merthyr Tydvil, April 20, 1848. A. P. J.

THE REFORM QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Lamartine says, "Destiny grants one season in every age for humanity to regenerate itself." Such a season the present juncture proclaims to us.

The time for a middle class expression is now. We do not presume to dictate what ground shall be taken for a first attack. On an organization of its power, in readiness for action, we humbly suggest as a deep, solemn, and absolute duty of the present crisis. Time yet is, when it may wisely, powerfully, safely, and peacefully dictate its own terms to a shaken, trembling, and arrogant aristocracy.

A further reform in our representative system unquestionably must be among the coming changes; therefore to the non-electors of the United Kingdom we especially address ourselves. We do so with some confidence, being able to introduce high and somewhat new grounds from high and new authority.

Sir Robert Peel uses occasionally an agreeable playfulness in his addresses, both in the House and out of the House. Still it betrays something of that wanton humour which superiority feels over, and trifles with, less gifted minds.

The editor of *La Presse*, the other day, "spoke of pregnant thoughts suggested incompletely and even erroneously as being sometimes sufficient to awaken ideas." Remembering the pretty piece of flattery administered to the electors of Tamworth, it has awakened the "idea" of striking applicability to those we address. Sir R. Peel said, "You are, in this borough, amongst some of the privileged electoral classes. Out of a population of about 7,000, there are some 400 or 500 selected from you to act on the part of the whole body. The law presumes that you who are thus selected are more intelligent, more exempt from corrupt influences, and more able to form a correct judgment on the motives and conduct of public men, than the rest." We are strangers to the electors of Tamworth, but presume

they possess about the usual average of political probity, and that some of the number so lauded were as much entitled to it, as the bribed and treated at Horsham and elsewhere, who are indiscriminately termed the "worthy and independent." He then says, "I attach the utmost importance to the maintenance of the electoral privilege by the smaller boroughs." The importance "he" personally attaches to a "small borough" will be seen by you non-electors as something totally distinct, and for a very opposite purpose, than enters your yet unassailed body. For anything we know it may be the least contaminated constituency in the United Kingdom. But even then we deny its claim to an address at your expense. If a ten pound house is just the starting-point of political discrimination and virtue, it ought to be applied to every man inhabiting one, without reference to where it may be. Electoral districts would ensure this. Look at the large and growing towns in every part of England as yet without a voice in the representation of the country, while some 400 or 500 are being flattered upon the "highest authority" that they are the most intelligent, the least corrupt, and the best able to form a correct judgment upon public men.

Non-electors, "awake! arise! or be for ever fallen!" Measure your intelligence and honesty with these men of Tamworth, or quell for ever these "wind-bag sophistries, degrading alike to the intellect that uses and the intellect that listens." But Sir Robert or Sir Jabez did not finish here. The men of this pure little borough must have grown inches upon the spot—the elevating grandeur of the thought must have been perfectly electrical—when, on tiptoe, they heard, "they were not the mere mushrooms called into existence yesterday; you date your privileges from Queen Elizabeth." Many a scratch of the head, no doubt, tried to rake up a recollection of the first vote. For 300 years "you" have exercised the right of sending members to Parliament, and that right you have never abused. One for the moment might have thought these men born in the time of Elizabeth, and like the patriarchs of old, just in the middle of life.

But the time for trifling is not now. If the law, or Sir Robert Peel as its exponent, declares and sets forth certain recognisable grounds, alien to man himself, upon which he is entitled to political privileges, every non-electors should take the application to himself, bestir the country, and demand electoral districts as a right.

A reorganization of the League, and consequent amalgamation of the middle and working classes, is the only safe guarantee for public tranquillity. In the present state of political disappointment on the one side, and disaffection on the other, an union could be most easily effected of the most formidable character. Greater and more momentous changes than have taken years of agitation to ensure might be secured in months.

If four or five hundred men can, with any truth, be so addressed as Sir R. Peel addressed his constituents, then we say, every other four or five hundred men, holding the same qualification, throughout the United Kingdom, possess equal claims for the distinction, and merit equally the reward, of the suffrage. We require no fresh argument. The same amount of "intelligence and ability, and the same absence of uncorrupt influence." He has proclaimed the qualification; therefore let those who have it—speak!

Tens of thousands of men bear as "fair a fame" as the men of Tamworth! Tens of thousands hold the same qualification to whom it gives no privilege. Let them unite, and demand it shall be made a reality. The duty of the middle classes was never more urgent, more imperative, than now. Before many months there is too much fear one side or the other may have to be taken. We are of the people; let us make our choice, and take the side of the people before it is too late. Let the aristocracy understand that a demonstration of the middle classes to prevent a mob from breaking windows is but a false sign, if believed upon, to be used to check or delay the just demands of a suffering, but patient and reflecting, people.

AN ELECTOR OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.

IRELAND.

THE STATE TRIALS.

At the sitting of the Queen's Bench, on Wednesday, the Attorney-General announced the entry of the *nolle prosequi* and the filing of the *ex-officio* information; and called for the personal appearance of Mr. Mitchell to make his plea. After argument, the Court allowed till the next day for Mr. Mitchell to appear and plead; it was understood he had gone to England, and was returning that night. In the afternoon, however, Mr. Mitchell appeared, received a copy of the information, and became bound to plead in four days.

In order to override delays and technical obstructions, the Attorney-General has taken the same course in the cases of Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Meagher as in that of Mr. Mitchell—the indictments are abandoned, and *ex-officio* informations are filed.

Speaking of those proceedings the *Spectator* says:—"Altogether there is a very ungenteel and business-like peremptoriness about the revised course on which the Attorney-General has entered. The new course, we presume, is not likely to end in drawing-room burlesques of imprisonment. Mr. O'Connell and his fellows were permitted by the servants of the crown to use their prison as an office for the continuance of their agitation against the constituted authorities in whose custody they were. Communication with friends, for personal solace, has often been denied to political prisoners, most cruelly; but it is going to the opposite extreme of caricatured forbearance to permit communications between convicted seditious and the public for the very purpose of continued sedition. We assume that under Lord Clarendon's administration the absurdity will not be repeated."

GOVERNMENT PREPARATIONS.—The Government relaxes nothing in its "preparations." Merriensquare has been surveyed, with a view of forming there an infantry depot. The Hibernian Marine School, at the South side of the quays, is to be formed into a barrack. The attics of various buildings in Dublin Castle, as well as servants' apartments, are now in preparation for barrack accommo-

dation, so that an additional regiment may be located there. Altogether the castle presents the aspect of a fortress in time of war. The 71st Highland Light Infantry arrived at Dublin, from Glasgow, on Friday. There is a rumour that the "movement" of the populace is fixed for the 23rd inst., the anniversary of the outbreak in 1798.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

The *Dundalk Patriot* reports the condition of the district to which it belongs:—

We understand that the people are seriously engaged, both in this and the adjoining counties, in furnishing themselves with arms for self-defence, and to enable them to resist aggression, whether it proceed from the "base, bloody, and brutal Whigs," or from any other quarter. * * * Rifles and muskets, we are informed, are to be found in both town and country, in large quantities. That terrible weapon in the hands of an Irishman—the pike—is being manufactured in thousands; and forks, the prongs shaped like a bayonet, are in great requisition. Certain it is, that smiths in all quarters are working double time, and the anvil and sledge are meeting each other twice as often as they have ever done before, in the manufacture of pikes. This is as it should be. There is no concealing the fact that the people are coolly and quietly preparing to resist any attack on their rights. Go where you will, and hardly anything is spoken but the calm, resolute movement in which they are engaged. * * * Such is the feeling amongst the rural population. They are certain of success. They contrast their present sober habits with those of former times, when drunkenness made the people an easy prey to their opponents. They assert that Irishmen will never again commit such mistakes as before; and that the next battle in which they are engaged will result in their total destruction or the establishment of their rights. Such are the views of the country-people. In the towns, we have learned that the different trades are procuring arms, and that each trade will re-organise itself. For instance, we understand that the shoemakers are arming themselves as a distinct body, and also the masons, tailors, carpenters, &c. When thus organized, they state that the trades alone will present to the country at least 300,000 armed men—intelligent, bold, and firm—and fit to engage a similar number of the best disciplined troops.

The *United Irishman* reports on the state of Tipperary:—

A Tipperary Boy, who sends us his name, informs us that very few of the arms were given up or discovered in Tipperary, but lie safely hid for any emergency. That is right. It is precisely in proclaimed districts that arms are most needed; and, at all events, we would not do without a Tipperary regiment or two.

It was starving at Skibbereen, last year; this year, it is rifle-shooting.

Mr. John O'Connell, yielding to the predominant influence, sends a long letter to the *Freeman's Journal*, explaining that he signed the address of the Irish Peers and Commons in London on the understanding it would be presented to the Queen: Lord Downshire, however, transmitted it to Lord Clarendon; and Mr. O'Connell feels obliged to disclaim the confidence in Lord Clarendon implied by that act. He tells the Lord-Lieutenant:—

You are arming sect against sect. . . . We will not leave our properties and our lives, our families, our wives, our children, defenceless against the sudden onslaught of bigotry newly armed. . . . I warn you that we cannot and will not submit to this; and that if religion is to be the war-cry, religion too will bless the struggle.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CLERGY.—The Confederation boasts that it is daily receiving adhesions from the Romish priesthood in all parts of the country, while whole dioceses—bishops, archdeacons, curates, &c., are withdrawing from Conciliation Hall, a place that has fallen into universal contempt. No one knows what it is now. The sincere Repealers—the Striches, Dunnes, Baillies, Sullivans, Galways—the fathers Miley, Murphy, and Byrne, declare they will not stand the dictation of the little man any longer—they will not allow him to ruin the association by his puerile policy, and if he do not move they will.

MEETING OF DUBLIN MAGISTRATES.—The magistracy for the county of Dublin met on Friday, when declaration of loyalty to the Queen, and an address, calling upon the Government to prevent the indiscriminate possession of arms, was proposed by the Hon. Mr. Preston. An amendment, calling for remedial measures for Ireland, was moved by Mr. Fitzsimon, but the original motion was carried by a majority of 48 to 18. The adoption of the address was considered tantamount to proclaiming the city.

THE "GAGGING ACT."—The *Nation* of Saturday contains a letter, or manifesto, extending to nearly four columns, and bearing the signature of "Charles Gavan Duffy," professing to be an exposition of the "creed of the *Nation*." The *United Irishman* was not published until an advanced hour of the day, for reasons set forth in the leading article:—

The "Gagging Bill" has already begun to operate upon us in an unexpected manner. This newspaper is printed by the proprietor, at No. 12, Trinity-street, and the presswork is done at a steam-press printing-office, Bachelor's-walk. On Wednesday evening last, the proprietors of the press sent word to our office, that they were advised, by eminent counsel, that they could not allow the *United Irishman* to be pressed in their establishment any longer, without incurring the risk of an indictment; and, as it was then too late to make any other arrangement for the present week, we have been obliged to submit to the degradation of having our proofs revised by a lawyer, in order to satisfy the parties, before this number could appear. We have most heartily to apologize to our readers for this, and can only promise them that no lawyer's pen shall touch our writings a second time.

Mr. Mitchell complains, that the "censor" has ruthlessly erased all the "felonious" passages in his writings.

The next meeting of the Irish Confederation is fixed for this evening, the 3rd of May.

Mr. Hodges, the Government reporter, has been despatched on an official mission to the south, with a view of furnishing a faithful record of the sayings and doings at the demonstrations of sympathy which are to come off in that quarter during the ensuing week.

WICKLOW ELECTION.—As was anticipated, Mr. Monck has been defeated by a very narrow majority, the gross numbers at the close of the poll being:—

Howard	363
Monck	355

Majority

On the last day there were but 16 votes polled, of whom 10 voted for Mr. Monck, and the remainder for Sir R. Howard.

MELANCHOLY SPECTACLE.—A personage, observing the strictest incognito, arrived at Berne, and put up at the Hotel de Faucon. He left this morning early for Geneva. It is supposed that it is the ex-King of Bavaria, going to rejoin Lola Montes.

A CHILD STARVED BY ITS MOTHER.—A very revolting case of cruelty and ill treatment was brought to light in Birmingham on Tuesday. The circumstances of the case are briefly these:—A man named Wheatoroft, and a woman who passed as his wife, have, with their three children, resided for some time past in the upper part of New Canal street. The neighbours were often alarmed at the frightful manner in which the children were beaten and ill-used, and their sympathies often awakened by the sad and pitiable appeals made to them by the little things for food, for they were nearly starved. At length matters were brought to a crisis. The poor children, who had been tied up in the house on the 31st of March last, while the mother went out, locking the door after her, managed to free themselves, and get to the window, when their appeals to the passers-by for food were so urgent and painful that the door was broken open, and the children taken out. They were found to be bruised and beaten in a frightful manner, and it was with difficulty that their cravings for food could be appeased. A gentleman who happened to be passing, commiserating the condition of the children, took care of them; but the eldest of the two (a little boy) lingered and died from the effects of the treatment received and from the consequences of want of food. A lengthened inquiry took place before the coroner. The parents have been committed to take their trials for manslaughter.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, May 3, Two o'clock.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—The National Assembly meets to-morrow at one o'clock. A decree has been published by the Provisional Government, ordering—"The representatives of the people shall wear a black coat, a white waistcoat with lappels, black pantaloons, and a tricoloured silk scarf, ornamented with gold fringe. They shall attach to the button-hole on the left side of their coat a red riband, on which shall be embroidered the *fascies* of the Republic."—The additional electoral returns received from the country show, that although in favour of the Moderate party, "the Republic" is in no respect endangered by it. Considerable numbers of notorious Legitimists have been named, but unquestionably Republican members have been chosen in more than equal numbers. The most extraordinary feature in these returns is, however, the election of ten or a dozen ecclesiastics, including the Bishop of Quimper and the celebrated Abbé Lacordaire; and, strange to say, these nominations are not objected to by the ultra-Republican party. *La Liberté* states that M. Affre, the Archbishop of Paris, has been elected a deputy in the department of the Aveyron. The Bishops of Orleans and of Quimper have likewise been elected in the departments of the Lozère and of Finistère. M. Thiers is not elected.

MM. Lamartine and Ledru Rollin are stated to be on good terms. M. Jules Favre, who has acted as Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior, and who is said to be the author of the various alarming articles ascribed to M. Ledru Rollin, has been dismissed.

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.—The following are extracts from a private letter, dated Hamburg, April 29, which arrived at Hull by the "Queen of Scotland" steamer:—"It is now likely that the Prussians will occupy Jutland, and possibly even Funen, by way of reprisal and equivalent for the large amount of German property under sequestration by the Danes. Schleswig is now almost entirely in the hands of the German troops. It is stated in the *Vateland*, Copenhagen newspaper, that the Government will not blockade the Elbe. The Danes are rapidly and continuously retreating, having no chance against the overwhelming force of the Prussian and Hanoverian troops."

Despatches received in Paris on Monday state that Mehemet Ali may be considered as no more at this moment.

TREATY BETWEEN RUSSIA, SWEDEN, AND DENMARK.—Letters from St. Petersburg, dated 18th ult., state, from authority on which we can rely, that a treaty offensive and defensive between Russia, Sweden, and Denmark, is arranged, and will positively be ratified in the event of an entry of German troops

in Schleswig, in which case Denmark will be supported by the whole forces of the other two powers. —*Daily News*.

POLAND.—CRACOW, APRIL 26.—A skirmish has taken place between the populace and the troops, in consequence of the refusal of Government to allow Polish emigrants, not natives of Cracow, to remain in the town. Barricades were erected, and several rockets are said to have been thrown from the Castle. Peace was eventually restored by the emigrants voluntarily removing. General Castiglione is said to be wounded.

THE WAR IN LOMBARDY.—Udine had been attacked and taken by Count Nugent, who is said also to have entered Venice. The Austrian troops have retired into Verona and Mantua, and the Sardinian army still clings to its quarters on both sides of the Mincio. Marshal Radetski's position is described as impregnable. The *Times* Paris correspondent, however, states his belief that all matters in dispute between Austria and her *ci-devant* Lombardo-Venetian states are in process of amicable arrangement:—

I shall add, that Count D'Appony, who leaves Paris definitely to-day, goes with the assurance that France desires and hopes to remain at peace with Austria—an assurance quite incompatible with the expectation of being compelled to proceed to the support of King Charles Albert.

Whatever destinies Providence may hereafter reserve to the Polish nation, this opportunity has been lost. Prince Adam Czartoryski has addressed a letter to the Prussian Government, in which he states that the hopes with which he arrived in Berlin have been extinguished. —*Times*.

THE IRISH NATIONAL CONVENTION PROCLAIMED.—RIOT AT LIMERICK.—RETIREMENT OF MR. O'BRIEN.

The Lord-Lieutenant has issued a proclamation prohibiting the intended assemblage of the Council of 300 and the enrolment of a National Guard.

A serious riot occurred in Limerick on Saturday. Mr. Mitchell's appearance in that city was the signal for an outburst of Old Ireland animosity. The Garry Owen boys improvised a canvas effigy of Mitchell stuffed with straw, and having trailed the obnoxious image through the streets, arrived before the house where Messrs. O'Brien, Mitchell, and Meagher were being entertained. They, with tremendous yells, next proceeded to fire the effigy of Mitchell, and having done so attempted to force the blazing effigy into the room where the party were assembled. S. O'Brien, relying on his popularity, went forth to allay the tumult, when he was fiercely assailed and severely injured, some of his ribs having been broken, besides the other injuries he sustained. He was carried from the scene by four men, to the house of his father-in-law. Notice of the assault on their leader having been given to the confederates, they immediately proceeded to arm. Tables, chairs, benches—everything that could fill the red hand of revenge was put in requisition, and they sallied forth against the invaders. The battle raged furiously on both sides for at least twenty minutes; and it was not until the military and police interfered that the combatants were separated. Mr. Smith O'Brien has announced to his constituents his intention of resigning his seat, and retiring into private life. Mr. Meagher has done the same.

The city of Limerick has been proclaimed. It comes under the Crime and Outrage Suppression Act from and after Friday next. The county has been long under proclamation.

The Limerick riot is the topic of universal conversation in Dublin, and is likely to lead to the total break up of the Young Ireland party, and to the consequent re-establishment of order and tranquillity.

THE REFORM MOVEMENT.—A great meeting was held at the Corn Exchange, Manchester, on Monday night, John Brooks, Esq., in the chair. About 3000 persons were present. The Chairman declared himself favourable to Universal Suffrage, and, indeed, to the whole six points of the Charter; but he was willing to go for something less, because he wanted to rally round this movement all the strength he could get out of doors, and then they could do battle with the Parliament much more effectually. Speaking of this meeting, the *Manchester Examiner* of yesterday says:—

An amendment was of course proposed, pledging the meeting to all the points; but the manly and sensible speech of Mr. Vincent produced a marked effect on the auditory, and the result was that the amendment was rejected, and the resolutions, similar to those at Birmingham, were carried by a decided majority. It was not, however, in the mere fact of a majority that the chief evidence of returning mutual confidence was afforded at the meeting last night: There was a manifest and decided preponderance of those favourable to merging mere differences of opinion in a combination of all who desire to see a thorough reform of our representative system; and this one fact alone speaks volumes as to the spirit now in operation.

The *Manchester Examiner* of yesterday says:—

Since we published our first edition, the provisional committee have received, by this morning's post, nearly 200 additional answers, from all parts of the kingdom, to their circular, which, with five exceptions only, are decidedly, and even enthusiastically, in favour of the movement. They say, too, most unequivocally, that the feeling in their several districts is ripe, and ready for cordial co-operation.

THE PLAN OF REFORM.—What plan Mr. Hume will propose is not yet known, but the following outline from a letter by Sir J. Walmsley, M.P., one of the most active promoters of the movement, is thought to indicate its principal features:

Household suffrage, embracing the occupancy of every tenement, the holder of which can claim to be rated for the poor, the

only condition to the right of vote being a continuous holding of the qualification for twelve months (which would extend the number of voters from something under one million, to upwards of three millions, and thus give a majority of the adult male population of the country a voice in the legislative assembly), with the ballot, and triennial Parliaments, ought to be conceded; and these should be considered rather as a dividend, than payment in full of all demands.

THE CONFERENCE AT HERBERT'S HOTEL.—The Conference of Reformers will meet this evening, at six o'clock. In reference to the arrangements for the meeting we have received the following letter of explanation:—

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Being one of the committee appointed to convene a Conference at Herbert's Hotel, on the 3rd of May, and fearing lest some remarks on the subject which appeared in the *Nonconformist* last week, may lead to some misapprehension, I beg to inform your readers that the only qualification required by the committee in those who come properly recommended to attend, is their agreeing on the principle of Complete Suffrage.

The address expressly states that such alterations and amendments as may be deemed necessary, the Conference will be at liberty to make.

And should they not agree in the points of detail, they will be at liberty to convene another Conference for that purpose. The name, the plan of organization, and every material point, will be submitted for their approval.

No one being committed beyond the fundamental principle of Complete Suffrage, will, I trust, remove the obligations referred to. As several ministers and others who wish to be at the Conference, but are previously engaged at another meeting, to be held that evening, it is intended to adjourn once, or more if required, so that all may attend.

And as there are many ministers in town, and others who approve of Universal or Complete Suffrage, who, though unknown to us, would heartily co-operate with the Conference and attend personally, they are requested to make it known to the Secretaries, Messrs. Dick and Neeson, Herbert Hotel, and they will be admitted. The committee are not acquainted with this communication, but I am persuaded I have expressed the opinion of the majority.

I am, yours, truly,

JAMES VINES.

1, Denmark Road, Camberwell, May 1, 1848.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS was adjourned yesterday at four o'clock, only twenty-five members being present.

THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The Committee of this valuable institution have struggled nobly to meet the deficiency occasioned by the pressure of the times. We learn from the explanation of the honourable Treasurer, that, at one time, the declension threatened to amount to £10,000; more than half, we believe, of the available income of the Society. The amount has, however, been so far reduced by the generosity of Mr. Peto and other friends, that not more than £1,000 has been added to the pre-existing debt. Rigid economy has been introduced into every department. Reduction of expense has been pressed upon the Missionaries to the utmost point, and, in Mr. Peto's opinion, "beyond that which ought to have been done." At the last Committee meeting, the members, officers, and honorary members, subscribed among themselves £1,200 towards making up the deficiency; and the public collection at Exeter Hall was more than £1,700. It is now for the general supporters and friends of the Institution, and of Missions in general, to do their part, and follow the above noble example. One penny a month from every Sunday-school child connected with the denomination would supply £7,500 a year. Elsewhere we have published an appeal to the Christian public from the Committee, which we have no doubt will not be made in vain.

MESMERISM.—It is said that Mr. Spencer T. Hall, whose lectures are announced in our advertising columns, anticipates developing some exceedingly interesting phenomena this week, at Crosby-hall, and that they will be witnessed by many persons of high literary and professional distinction.

CHURCH-RATE SEIZURES AT COLCHESTER.—The following parties have been seized upon for church-rates during the last twelve days, at different times:—Thomas Knight, amount of three years' rates, £4 13s. 6d. Goods seized, 261½ lbs. loaf sugar; value, £6 10s. 9d.—William Cross, for three years' rates, amounting to £1 13s. 1d. Goods seized, 6½ yards black cloth; value, £3 15s. 7½d.—Thomas Catchpool and Son, for three years' rates, amounting to £5 10s. 4d. Goods seized, nine copper furnaces; value, £11 8s. 0½d.

CHURCH-RATE SEIZURE, BRISTOL.—Mr. Stock Arthur, churchwarden of St. Stephen's, Bristol, visited several Dissenting inhabitants of that parish on Thursday, accompanied by no fewer than five satellites. One of the establishments visited was that of Messrs. Mathews Brothers, printers, depositary of the British Anti-state-church Association. Among the articles carried off were several volumes of the Anti-state-church tracts, several copies of the Proceedings of the Conference, and several packets containing an assortment of the publications of the Association. It is to be hoped that Mr. Stock Arthur, together with the Rev. William Buck, the rector, and the other gentlemen (?) connected with these proceedings, will read and inwardly digest them, and then lend them to their neighbours.

STATE OF TRADE.—MANCHESTER, TUESDAY, MAY 2.—Our market to-day has been characterised by more cheerfulness than we have remarked for many weeks past.

CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, MAY 3.

The setting in of fine weather is having its effect upon our trade, every article being extremely heavy in sale, but without any material alteration in price.

The arrivals this week consist of 1,630 qrs. English, and 6,110 qrs. foreign Wheat; 1,010 qrs. English, and 880 qrs. foreign Barley; 1,470 qrs. English, 4,310 qrs. Irish, and 880 qrs. foreign Oats; with 2,430 sacks English Flour.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Nonconformist* presents a suitable medium for Advertisements of all descriptions, from its extensive circulation in all parts of the United Kingdom. The terms are moderate.

For Eight Lines and under 5s. 0d.
For every additional Two Lines..... 0s. 6d.
Half a Column..... £1 | Column..... £2

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:—6s. 6d. per quarter; 13s. for the half-year; and 26s. per annum.

Subscriptions (payable in advance) are received at the Office, 4, Horse-shoe-court, Ludgate-hill.

Post-Office Orders, &c., payable to Miall & Cockshaw.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Received 5s. from Rev. T. Clark, Ashford, for Mrs. Bean.

In reply to a correspondent, we beg to say that it is not necessary, according to law, that notices of meetings to lay church-rates should be posted on chapel doors.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 1848.

SUMMARY.

THE great topic of the week is supplied by France. It is now well known that the majority of members returned to the National Assembly are Republicans of what may be called the moderate stamp. In Paris, Lamartine, and that part of the Provisional Government who adhere to his line of policy, are placed at the top of the list; whilst the more violent of the extempore Cabinet, headed by Ledru Rollin, are at the bottom. The elections proceeded in the metropolis of France without a symptom of public disturbance. In some of the provinces affairs have not been so happily concluded. There have been serious riots, leading to a lamentable loss of life, in Rouen, Limoges, and some other towns; and of these casualties the daily press is making as alarming a representation as possible. On the whole, however, France, with her 30,000,000 of people, with universal suffrage, and under all the stimulus of a recent revolution, has passed through this crisis of her history with not more sacrifice of life and property than was experienced by England alone at the period of the Reform Bill. The National Assembly will meet to-morrow, and it would be folly in us to predict the tenor of its policy; but, assuredly, we see no more reason to doubt the rational bearing of the Assembly, than we have hitherto felt to believe the monstrous exaggerations, and the aristocratic fears, of the most influential portion of our daily press. So far as we may judge by the indications which are before us, the grand experiment has been strikingly successful; and, had we full confidence in the stability of French national character, we should regard the issue as no longer doubtful. Our state of mind is still one of hope. We cannot but remember that France in the present day differs very materially from France of 1793. Since then the world has made progress, nor have the French people remained stationary, and we cherish the confident expectation that the general love and appreciation of public order will be quite sufficient to put down the wild and reckless schemes of the small minority, whose interests seem to be bound up with riot and disturbance. We wonder not, indeed, at the pains which have been taken by our aristocratic press to magnify the evils and dangers of the present period. In the history of public movements in France, our oligarchy may read the complexion of their destiny. If the Republic succeed, their political ascendancy is lost for ever—their desire that it should fail, may be fairly taken as explanatory of the violent misrepresentations of the press in this country, intended to convince the British public that it has failed.

Cannot our readers see the intimate connexion subsisting between the success of the French Republic and the certainty of a large and efficient reform movement in this country? Is it likely that universal suffrage will be productive of reassuring results in France without exerting an immense reflex influence upon the state of public opinion in our own land? Already we have felt the shock. Society at this very moment feels the vibration communicated to it by the French Revolution. It was only natural that the first expression of excited feeling on the part of the public should be somewhat irregular, violent, and ill-advised—just as a man, suddenly overcome by the news of some great event, talks at random, and gives awkward utterance to feelings which he has had no time to measure or define. But the next stage is by far the more serious one—the stage of reflection and of resolute determination. It is to this that the English people are rapidly approaching. Signs of it are sufficiently numerous. The meetings of the League leaders at Manchester, of the middle class friends of the people at Birmingham and Leeds—of both classes at Leicester and Bradford, and the conclusion at which these meetings arrived, indicate clearly enough the current of feeling in the present day.

The oligarchy need not hug itself under the impression that continental disturbances have scared our people from a settled desire of constitutional change. There will be movement—successful movement—movement to an extent that will destroy the ascendancy of the present aristocratic class. We have no misgivings as to this. Oligarchy is doomed. Its ultimate fate may be more or less lingering, but the revolution in France decided, once for all, the question between the few and the many. The battle of freedom, in whose victory we share, was stoutly fought behind the barricades of Paris. It is happily allotted to us that we should derive profit from continental struggles without being compelled to participate in the sufferings which they inflict. We have learnt in this country the value of moral force, and, since properly wielded it is sufficient for every just political purpose, we earnestly deprecate every semblance of departure from its sanction and laws.

The present House of Commons, however, would seem to care little for the storm that menaces its exclusive constitution out of doors. It re-assembled on Monday night, after the Easter recess, and the business which occupied its attention showed that Ministers at least are in as much of a hurry as before to “un-Whig” themselves. First, there was a resolution proposed sanctioning the advance on loan of £200,000 for the immigration of free labourers into Guiana and Trinidad, which the Chancellor of the Exchequer wished to be passed without giving any definite information as to the manner in which the money was to be applied, or the means by which it was to be repaid. Eventually Ministers were obliged to give way, and postpone the loan for future immigration schemes until the subject had been properly discussed in the House. Meanwhile, we are glad to observe that the important questions of African Immigration and Coercive Colonial Legislation are to form two of the topics to be discussed by a Conference of the opponents of slavery, convened by the Anti-slavery Society for the 20th instant, at the Hall of Commerce. The second topic of debate was the Alien Bill brought down from the Upper House—a measure which places the liberty of every foreigner at the mercy or caprice of any Ministers for the time being, and which was shown by Sir W. Molesworth to be at variance with the recorded opinions of every man of eminence in the Whig party during the last fifty years, especially of Lord John Russell himself. Mr. W. J. Fox made an admirable and telling speech in opposition to the bill, which we commend to the attentive perusal of the friends of freedom. The efforts and reproaches of the Radical members were, however, of no avail. A subservient House of Commons sanctioned the second reading of the bill by an overwhelming majority. Subsequently Sir W. Somerville explained the provisions of the measure for improving the Parliamentary franchise in Ireland, upon which we shall have opportunity of commenting more at length on a future occasion.

In Ireland, the energetic measures of Government under their new Crown and Government Security Bill, seem to give a decided check to the insurrectionary designs of the confederates.

The remaining foreign news of the week may be briefly summed up. The united German army has gained a signal victory over the Danes, and expelled them from the Duchy of Schleswig. There is now some ground for hoping that negotiations may be successfully opened with a view to a peaceful solution of the question at issue, especially as Russia has peremptorily refused to assist the King of Denmark. In Posen, anarchy still prevails, and the prospect of a reorganization of Poland seems to be more distant than ever. Marshal Radetsky still maintains his ground in Lombardy, and is not likely to be expelled by force of arms. An amicable arrangement of the dispute between Austria and Lombardy is not, however, unlikely to prevent the further effusion of blood, and establish the independence of all Italy.

CENTRE OF GRAVITATION TO A PEOPLE'S PARTY.

BEFORE the basis of the contemplated organization for Parliamentary Reform is finally marked out, and whilst yet the earnest Liberals of the constituent class remain uncommitted to any definite proposal, we are bold to make one more effort to urge upon their recognition the claims of manhood to the franchise, above the mere accident of its worldly position. If our observation has not misled us, the tide of feeling amongst those who already possess votes is setting in strongly in favour of Household Suffrage. Now we are not about to deny that such a change in the constituency, especially if accompanied, as is proposed, by the Ballot, a more equal distribution of electoral districts, and triennial parliaments, would afford a sufficient leverage for the overthrow of oligarchy. We will not pretend that such a measure of representation, if attainable, would not be worth a struggle. We will not designate it harshly, nor speak of it in terms which would imply that it would prove as delusive, or as barren of useful re-

sults as the existing system. Nevertheless we cannot but think that the reforming zeal which will carry the middle class up to the mark of Household Suffrage, but which timidly stops short of Universal, is guilty of an egregious blunder, and whether it succeed or fail in its immediate object, will certainly entail upon the country the penalty of its mistake.

We shall not aspire to novelty in our treatment of this question—nor shall we, on the present occasion, go minutely into statistics. We are ourselves awayed, we admit, chiefly by moral considerations—but they are such as indicate to us the true direction of high and enlarged political expediency. The substitution of Household for Universal Suffrage is open to the following weighty objections.

In the first place, it proceeds upon a fundamentally erroneous principle. It assumes, not merely that our present limited constituencies possess the *power*—that, unhappily, is the fact—but that they have the *right*, to deal out political privilege according to their own self-constituted standard of political expediency. It erects the body of ten-pound householders into a tribunal whose *fat* shall determine, and elevates their own supposed convenience into a law according to which judgment shall be given, as to who shall have the franchise and who shall be denied it—upon what condition it shall be extended, and under what circumstances withheld. It aims to make the foot fit the shoe, instead of the shoe the foot. Now we regard extension of the suffrage as a measure demanded by political justice—and we hold that measures of justice cannot, with any show of propriety, be clipped and pared to suit our notions of what may serve our own views. It seems to us, therefore, that every man, not legally in the power of another—every man whom the laws recognise as his own master, free to dispose of himself according to his own mind, subject, of course, to such restrictions as are deemed necessary for the State to identify and localize him, may equitably claim from present constituencies the restitution of his rights—and the severity or liberality of the terms on which the franchise is extended is but the harsher or more kindly application of slave law. The offer of a measure of reform, ever so little stinted, proceeds upon the assumption that, in a political sense, certain classes of men appertain to us, and that, although disposed to deal liberally with them, we cannot recognise the fee simple of their rights as vested in themselves.

Passing on, however, from the question considered as one of rights, Household Suffrage lies open to objection on the ground of general policy. It goes to the perpetuation of class distinctions, and continues all the terrible, but insidious evils of caste. It still leaves a festering sore in the body politic, for national disasters to chafe, and for unprincipled demagogues to influence. The little which is *not* done, is just enough to take from all that is done, the venerable sanction of justice, but not enough to avert the fancied danger of placing government under efficient popular control. It is like every other incomplete, and non-principled proceeding. It opens the door to possibilities, but not with that boldness of air which may show that it is quite competent to grapple with them, if need be. Meanwhile, the exclusion of but a few takes from the constitution the advantage of resting its claims for respect upon the evident justice of its provisions. The race of outcasts, although much circumscribed in extent, is still kept up—and the degradation of these men will be all the more palpable, and all the more galling, in proportion to the paucity of their numbers. We think it neither salutary nor wise, thus to keep open a seton in the arm of the State—and we shall greatly deplore the ultimate predominance of that timidity which dares not do complete justice.

Then again, it ought to be taken into the account that Household Suffrage, when gained, would not constitute a permanent settlement. As it would leave a considerable class unsatisfied, so it would furnish a broad ground for future agitation. We have often before this intimated that change in our institutions, is, in itself considered, a serious evil. It greatly resembles, in point of inconvenience, the alteration by a tradesman of the premises upon which he carries on his business. It deranges everything, and incommodes everybody. It draws off the attention and energy which ought to flow in the ordinary routine of social life, into an exclusively political channel. One has nothing but scaffolding and dust, hammering and mortar-mixing, until the whole thing is completed. For a day or two, this may be very well, as affording a little pleasing excitement. But it soon becomes inexpressibly wearisome and disgusting. We cannot be always reforming—cannot afford to dabble every year or so in alterations of the constitution. It is far better to get the affair out of hand once for all, by framing our legislature upon a self-adapting and self-correcting principle.

Nor does it appear to us that the substitution of Household for Universal Suffrage, would be a gain on the side of safety worth mentioning. The cen-

us for 1841, gives as the number of males resident in England and Wales, and being upwards of twenty years of age, 4,130,763—somewhat less than a third, and more than a fourth of the entire population. It gives also the number of inhabited houses in the same countries, at 2,943,989. Casting off, then, a proportion for those between twenty and twenty-one years of age, and taking into account joint occupancy in the case of a considerable number of houses, we find that Universal Suffrage would give to England and Wales 4,000,000 of voters, and that Household Suffrage would give 3,000,000—the relative proportion being four to three. The population for the whole of Great Britain is stated by the census to be 18,844,434—add for Ireland 8,175,238—and you have a gross total of 27,009,672. The number of voters which this population would give would be nearly as follows. On the plan of Universal Suffrage, under 7,000,000—on that of Household Suffrage, above 5,000,000.

Then, look, for a moment, at the class of men whom Household Suffrage would include in the constituency, and whom it would no less certainly exclude. That under its operation, our towns would give a large and valuable accession to the constituent body, is freely admitted. But taking into view the relative number of our population employed in the cultivation of the soil, and of those engaged in pursuits which, for the most part, are followed in towns—looking at the fact that many of these latter, especially in large boroughs, are already in possession of the franchise, and that few, if any, of the former, can now enjoy the privilege in question—observing, moreover, that whilst in towns lodgers are a numerous class, in rural districts, they are few—we think it can hardly be questioned that the principal addition to the electoral class likely to be made by Household Suffrage would be derived from the great body of agricultural labourers. This class, which certainly does not reach the average intelligence of any other in the kingdom, would outnumber all others whom the contemplated system would add to the constituency. Meanwhile it would shut out, in London, and in all our great towns, an immense majority of shopmen, usually as well qualified to participate in political power as their masters, and far less exposed to corrupt influences. Mechanics, living by their own industry, but too prudent to marry and keep house until they have realized some savings—hosts of bankers, merchants, and lawyers, clerks, earning a respectable salary, and moving in a respectable middle-class sphere of society—students for every profession—adult sons of a countless number of well-ordered and well-educated families—thousands of men, young and aged, whose sole pursuit is art or literature—all these the plan of Household Suffrage would exclude from the constituency. It would open the door to just that class, respecting whom it is so frequently urged by the opponents of complete representation, that it is wholly disqualified by ignorance, and it would close it against a numerous class, against which none will pretend that the objection lies. The electoral body which it would create, would, we are convinced, be pervaded by far less intelligence, and exposed to far more potent influences of corruption, than that which would be the off-spring of the juster, more liberal, and more natural system of a manhood suffrage.

But we have outrun our limits—and must return to the subject next week. Until then, we entreat our readers to pause—lest they commit themselves to a serious mistake.

THE CHARTISTS AND THEIR CRY.

WHILE we have indirect taxation, the aristocracy have every inducement to go to war—or, at least, to keep up a war establishment—for seventeen-twentieths of the fifty millions raised in taxes, besides the same proportion of the poor-rates, are paid by the middle and the labouring classes. This state of things, we cannot help seeing, is likely to continue for some time, by the wilfulness, or the misguidance, of not a few of the Chartists.

The word "Charter" ought now to go out of fashion, with some other terms until now greatly revered, for it imports a false origin of rights.

It is a grievous thing for other Reformers that so large and intelligent a body of men have raised the cry of "Nothing but the Charter," for by so doing they preclude the union with them of many who would earnestly exert themselves for one or other of the six points. Why should they reject the support of those who would aid them to extend the suffrage, but who hesitate to put the qualification within reach of a man who can neither read nor write?

Suppose, now, another organization to be formed, of men who should add a seventh point to the Charter—and, as they believe, following out its objects more fully than those who now call themselves Chartists—should insist upon the equal eligibility of women. Would not the new Chartists have equal justice on their side? And if anything would justify hostility to those who could

not pronounce that "Shibboleth," would not they, upon the principle on which the Chartists too often act, be justified, by the greater comprehensiveness of their theory, in ousting the six-points' men, in shouting them down, and in thrusting them from their hired rooms? We think the six-points' men would say that the seven-points' advocates had shown their unfitness for the judicious exercise of political power.

The cry of "Nothing but the Charter," is intolerant; and, coming from the mouths of Chartists, is peculiarly unjust. It says to those who seek an extension of the suffrage, or the shortening of the duration of Parliaments, or the ballot, You shall not have what you want unless you will seek more—all that we desire. They admit that the points we have named are *desirable*, and yet they oppose, and endeavour to stultify, those who aim to realize them, because they do not ask more than they think would be good. The majority of the Chartists admit the equal right of women to possess the franchise, and omitted the assertion of it in the Charter simply upon the ground of expediency.

Well, bearing in mind that this postpones the assumed and, by them, admitted right of just one half of the population, can they who exclude it from the formal declaration of their rights, for the sake of present convenience, justify the cry of, "the whole Charter, and nothing but the Charter?" We think not; it is a most serious injustice in their mode of conducting themselves towards their friendly fellow-subjects.

It is impolitic and intolerant, as a means to an end, to associate several points together, and to say to the whole family, you shall vote for all six, or you shall not have either. It is creed-making; the very principle which has hitherto enslaved the human mind; it is acting upon the spirit of the inquisition, "Believe all, or you shall be tortured and put to death." Recognise all our six points, and vote for them also, or you shall have no other reform, so far as we can prevent it, say the Chartists. Where is the difference as a question of justice?

Suppose that a party of the aristocracy—"Young England" say—should compose a Charter, comprehending the feudal system, the law of primogeniture, unequal and indirect taxation, but granting household suffrage, and calling it "the Charter," should unite with it the cry of "the Charter, the whole Charter, and nothing but the Charter," we should like to see and hear how our friends the Chartists would act and reason upon the justice of such a course of proceeding.

It is essential to ultimate and permanent success, as they will discover, to seek just ends by just means.

ENGLAND'S PET DYNASTIES.

THE petty sovereigns of Europe under the immediate patronage of our aristocracy are not only an expense, but a trouble. They bring no end of disgrace upon their protectors. We cannot imagine what earthly good they accomplish either to their country, or on behalf of those who put them there. Their subjects would be glad to get rid of them, and it seems to be their special delight to spite their patrons and protectors by every means in their power. Take for example Spain and Portugal—the two favourite fields for British diplomatic intrigues for years past. In the day of danger from their misgoverned subjects, they submissively fly to us for protection, and when they are once more safely seated on their throne they turn round and snub us.

Who are the gainers by our insane meddling in the affairs of the Peninsula? Portugal is not, for she would gladly make a change but for us. She is tired of being under the nominal rule of a faithless and characterless woman, whose most important occupation, of late, seems to have been to make a composition with her private creditors. Spain is not, for although we have guaranteed the throne to Isabella, that country is at present groaning under a military despotism from which we cannot relieve her. This country is not, for we have expended both blood and treasure in setting up dynasties, from whom we receive nothing but insult and indignity. Nay, we may go further, and say Lord Palmerston is not. His vanity is no doubt flattered in writing protocols to this Government, and sending dictatorial despatches to that—in being chosen a referee by one bankrupt Government, made a party to the intrigues of another, and playing the diplomatic game with the *dilettanti* statesmen of Europe. But in Spain and Portugal he has met with nothing but insult and contumely, which have made him the laughing-stock, of knaves as well as of honest men. Is it not time, for the sake of his own reputation, that this system were abandoned, and that we left our alternately obsequious and insolent allies to settle their own affairs?

As though the ordinary chapter of accidents were not sufficient to bring round the day of trouble, we put forth our feelers in every court in Europe, in order, as it would seem, that no dispute might occur, and no war be engaged in, without our being parties thereto. Providence,

by placing us in an insular position, has afforded us the most effectual safeguard against international quarrels. Our Government spurns the advantages of this position, and "does" for every paltry dynasty that will accept its protection. We—or rather our aristocratic rulers—have guaranteed three thrones in Europe—Belgium, Spain, and Portugal. The Danes say we are bound by treaty to interfere on their behalf. In fact, it is impossible to say how we are situated with regard to the European nations. We are not at all sure that, if a civil war were to break out in Heligoland, Lord Palmerston would not feel called upon to interfere, or at least issue one or two protocols on the subject. The foreign policy of our aristocratic Government has gained us the character, amongst continental nations, of a meddling and overbearing people. If this be not true, it is our own fault. We have allowed our rulers to go on interfering and guaranteeing until the very name of England has become odious throughout Europe as the bulwark of detested dynasties.

The whole system needs reformation. If it is right to set up and guarantee a dynasty in Spain, it is not far wrong on the part of our Minister to give such advice as he deems best adapted to uphold its authority. In this case we have received a well-merited retribution for our meddling policy, by being snubbed, sneered at, and insulted by a Cabinet presided over by perhaps the most brutal tyrant of Europe.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

(From a Paris Correspondent.)

Paris, May 1st, 1848.

THE danger of a foreign war, which might have crushed the new Republic, or plunged it into anarchy, by enabling the old parties to raise their heads, is now well nigh dissipated. A few days after the revolution, meeting with an ex-Peer of France, who had been twice in the cabinet of the late King, and was again called to it on the day preceding the abdication, I discovered the hopes that were then uppermost on this head. England, it was said, would be forced to interpose to repress the fraternization that would ensue betwixt the new Government and the malcontent Irish. Prussia, Austria, the other German monarchies, and Russia, would never permit a Republic to be established in a great contiguous state, and their united forces would, ere long, lay prostrate the nascent commonwealth. But how very soon did events arise to baulk these gloomy anticipations? The Irish deputation was feelingly, though firmly, repulsed by the leading member of the Provisional Government; and England, having too many difficulties at home to contend with, was the first to proffer the olive branch, and is now contented to vent her spleen through her organs of the press. Prussia, Austria, and the other feudal governments of Germany, shook to their centre by the moral concussion of the French revolution, soon felt themselves obliged to attend to their own affairs, and, instead of seeking to re-impose a kingly government on France, are now struggling to prop up their own rickety thrones. In their cases, "not a drum was heard, nor a trumpet's note," on the part of France; their hour had struck, and France effected, by means of her example alone, what former years of blood-stained conquests were unable to achieve. The people of Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Denmark, and Italy, have spontaneously moved forward under her inspiring example, and renovated their institutions. Russia, even, has come to see that the brute-force of her armies is powerless to put down the new spirit that animates the rest of Europe, and stands in dread of her serfs, Poles, and the bands of the Caucasus. It would be greatly to mistake the character of a people like the French, to suppose that they are insensible to the flattering homage that has thus been paid to their revolution by the greater portion of Europe; and that they will not discover, in the imitating movements of neighbouring states, a powerful reason for clinging to and upholding their new Government. That of Louis Philippe, by linking itself to the old absolutisms of Europe, and becoming, as it were, their lacquey, had reduced the nation to the humiliating condition of one of the lowest of the great European states; it has now become the first—the leading, or pattern one—and this consideration is enough to reconcile it to the new order of things. The beginnings of the new Republic have been glorious for France, and this will be a powerful means for rendering it stable.

It is singular that, amidst all that has been lately written in England on the new Republic, no allusion has been made to the influence likely to be exercised on it by the recollections of the old. The latter, though "leagued with whirlwinds, and begirt with woes,"—although it had to change, not only the government, but society, to contend against the evils of a war with Europe, and a civil one in the country, and carried in it a population generally ill-prepared for self-government—subsisted for more than ten years; and there is every reason to believe that it would have remained erect, but for the war, and its successes, which threw the power into the hands of the army, and its ambitious leader. The victories gained during the first Republic—the host

of talented men that sprung out of the ranks of the people, both as civilians and soldiers—the many excellent laws enacted, and yet in force—and, above all, the destruction of the aristocracy, and other privileged bodies, have left reminiscences that still endear the first democratical government to Frenchmen, and tend to attach them to the present. The force of events compelled them to abandon the first Republic; the present more favourable circumstances will dispose them to cling to the new.

The French, moreover, believe themselves at the head of civilized nations (do not the English claim the same pre-eminence?); and they regard their late revolution as a great step in advance. They will not be easily induced to retrograde, or cede the vantage-ground which they have conquered. "What!" will they say, "shall we become a subject of derision to the English and a few other old governments of Europe? shall we virtually confess that, after all the intellectual, moral, and material progress we have made, we are not so fit for self-government as the people of the United States, of Switzerland, Belgium, and some other countries? Such an idea is repugnant to a proud, aspiring people—or, to use their own phraseology, it is not French."

The saying of "*Tout pour le peuple, rien par le peuple*," has been often paraded; as if, forsooth, the people ever got anything for themselves, unless by themselves, or beyond the crumbs that fall from the tables of their masters. France, under the late Government, was indeed a monarchy of the middle classes; but these classes were generally gained by corruption, and were divided into two orders—the one of place-holders, and the other of place-seekers. To satisfy these claimants places were multiplied, pluralities created, jobs and favours of every sort were had recourse to, until a general system of wasteful venality inundated the country. The King himself set the example in this; greedy of wealth as well as power, he ruled with, rather than through, his Ministers. His sceptre was a rod of iron; and one of his main objects was the aggrandisement of his family. By an acute, observant, and *clairvoyant* people like the French all this did not fail to be noted, and to excite coolness, antipathy, and disgust. The final result is known. Under the Republic, yet in its infancy, although thrown amidst difficulties, some of which it inherited at its birth, the commencements of a different and better ordeal have been made. To a system of reckless expenditure, meant to satiate the avidity of the richer classes, has succeeded another, calculated to benefit the more numerous and poorer. The punishment of death for political offences has been abolished, and that penalty has been generally suspended till the meeting of the Assembly. Negro slavery has been abolished in the colonies. The taxes on knowledge have been taken off; the courts of law and seminaries of education improved. The million of francs paid monthly to the King have been saved, and his palaces changed into public establishments. The immense extent of land and forests belonging to what was called the Civil List, valued at many hundred millions of francs, have been announced for sale. Embassies have been suppressed, and changed into consulships, with moderate salaries, like those of the United States. A million and a half has already been saved by retrenchments in the higher military offices; the number of military divisions reduced; and more extensive reductions will soon follow. The heavy tax on salt, that so greatly enhanced the price of that article to the humbler classes, will soon disappear. The octroi duties on butchers' meat have been suppressed, and new ones imposed on articles of luxury, such as game, salmon, &c. The entry duties on wine, which is a necessary in France even among the operatives, that were previously forty-five francs the cask, without reference to the quality or price, have been commuted into an *ad valorem* tax, that will admit the common wines at a trifling duty. A graduated tax or reduction, varying from four to thirty per cent., has been imposed on all incomes derived from the State for civil services, ranging betwixt two thousand and thirty thousand francs. A similar tax, with different gradations, has been laid on house-rents exceeding eight hundred francs, on dogs, men-servants, and private carriages. Mortgages, formerly exempted, are now subject to a uniform rate of taxation, and will yield about fifty millions of revenue. The provincial banks, incorporated with the Bank of France, will give to that establishment an increased and improved action. A progressive tax on all incomes has been spoken of. Such are some of the measures which, in the course of two short months, have been taken by the Provisional Government for rectifying abuses, and more especially for bettering the condition of the working population; those to be taken for the same purpose by the National Assembly will, no doubt, be more sweeping and comprehensive. If such things are done in the green tree, what will not be done in the dry? What will not be effected in the way of carrying out the mighty principle of the greatest happiness of the greatest number in a legislature, where the whole nation will be represented by its delegates? Must not the hope of this be sufficient to make them submit patiently to their present sufferings, great as they may be; and even should they afterwards continue to

feel a part of them, to induce them to reflect that everything possible has been done by a Government of their own choice to ameliorate their condition? The people are not so blind, unreflecting, and capricious, as is sometimes imagined. To suppose, that after having felt the honest pride of self-government, after having become aware of the advantages of moderate and equitable taxation, they should hanker after a return of the rotten, costly, and compressive Government that they have lately cast off, is to assume them to be irrational, destitute of self-respect, and insensible to their own moral and material well-being. There is every reason to believe, that it is the anticipation of such a state of things that makes your privileged classes and their press look with so evil an eye on what is in progress here. If things go on as smoothly as they have done, France, without drawing a sword or sending out a single apostle of democracy, will produce an effect on other nations, in the way of shaming or frightening their Governments into necessary reforms, that will be irresistible.

I observe that some of the English newspapers are perpetually harping on the fact of about seventy thousand workpeople being employed in Paris, in what are called the National workshops, at the rate of a franc a day each, whose labour is little remunerative; and this outlay is represented as a profitless absorption of the national capital. But is not the evil of a temporary nature? and although the expenditure may be at the rate of a million sterling a year, will it not cease with the crisis that necessitated it? The influx of labourers into Paris, owing to the higher wages that are earned there, has long existed; and the presence of some thirty thousand out of employment in February last, was believed to have contributed to bring about the revolution. The Government, by taking measures, as it is now doing, for carrying on railways, reclaiming waste lands, &c., will soon be able to draw off this redundant mass of labourers; and it will be aided in this by private enterprises, as trade and credit revive. In France there is no legal provision for the poor as in England; and in the present situation of things here some temporary provision became indispensable. How many millions does not England, even in ordinary years, expend on her paupers, able-bodied included? and how many more were not laid out in Ireland last year in an unproductive manner?

THE COBDEN TESTIMONIAL FUND.—A meeting of the committee to the Cobden Testimonial Fund was held at the Town-hall, Manchester, on Saturday morning, when a number of the principal contributors to the fund were present, including Mr. R. Hyde Greg, Mr. W. Rawson, and Mr. George Wilson, the three treasurers. It appeared that the amount subscribed was £79,000, from which £4,800 had to be deducted for expenses, leaving a balance of £74,000 to be placed at Mr. Cobden's disposal. Of the whole amount subscribed, all within about £2,000 had been collected, notwithstanding the commercial depression which had prevailed; and of this deficiency Mr. Wilson, who read the report from the treasurers, stated that probably £1,500 more would yet be received. The delay in closing the subscription was attributed to the great depression of trade, and the absence of Mr. Cobden from home. The whole of the money had not remained in the banker's hands, however, some portion having been invested, with Mr. Cobden's consent, to greater advantage, and one moiety had been expended in the purchase of the estate known as Mr. Cobden's birth-place. The balance was in cash, and ready to be paid over by the treasurers so soon as the mode of doing it should be determined upon. These explanations appeared to give the highest satisfaction to the gentlemen present, and a sub-committee was appointed to audit the accounts. It was thought under these circumstances that the committee should decide upon the presentation being made by a few of the contributors only, or by the treasurers, in the name of the whole body.

EARLY CLOSING AT THE BANKING-HOUSES.—On Monday the business at the Bank of England and at all the banking establishments east of Temple-bar terminated at four o'clock in the afternoon, instead of five o'clock, as formerly; the west-end establishments will, however, keep open till the usual hour.

EXCLUSIVE DEALING.—Several ladies of high rank, as we are assured, contemplate the adoption of a resolution by which they will pledge themselves to use no article of dress that shall not be composed of British manufacture. A formal announcement of this determination will be made at the earliest practicable moment: but it seems advisable to mention the circumstance at once, because at the present season we believe it is customary for the London tradesmen to make their spring purchases, and the general depreciation of prices in France might induce them to make a larger investment than usual in French goods, which would of course become comparatively valueless in the event of any general movement in favour of protection to British industry.—*Morning Post*.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF CUSTOMS have decided against the appeal made by the Duc de Stackpole, and that nobleman's splendid schooner-yacht, the "Gipsy Queen," has been declared forfeited to the Crown for smuggling.

ANTHONY NORMAN, a tinker, noted half a century ago as the best still-maker in Ulster, died recently, near Shercock, at the age of 111.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

OUR MEDDLING FOREIGN SECRETARY.

(From the *Spectator*.)

Lord Palmerston has excelled himself in his latest Spanish correspondence, and has landed his Cabinet in a squabble as gratuitous, as profitless, as detrimental, and as discreditable, as he could have contrived. It was absolutely without provocation. Upon no call, *proprio motu*, he issues from Downing-street to the Spanish Government a recommendation "to adopt a legal and constitutional system." How is he judge of what is legal and constitutional in Spain? He preaches over "the recent downfall" of King Louis Philippe—a fugitive to the precincts of the English court—with a presumption as forgetful of official courtesy and as unseemly as Mr. —'s, when that eminent *littérateur* preached at the convivial table over "the recent downfall" of Porson, and extorted from the great scholar "down among the dead men" the stammering and silencing declaration, "Mr. —, I have a great contempt for you!" Not the downfallen Louis Philippe, but the Duke of Sotomayor, emulates Porson in the contumely of his retort,—returning the didactic despatch which had been forwarded to him by Mr. Bulwer; also telling Mr. Bulwer to keep within the bounds of his mission, or his letters should be returned without remark.

If Lord Palmerston thought to recover the ground which he lost by being out-jockeyed in the affair of the Spanish marriages, he has been disappointed, and has gained nothing but the being snubbed by the Duke of Sotomayor. In plainer terms than diplomacy can always employ, the Duke replies to Lord Palmerston:—"You are an impertinent fellow; mind your own business;" also casting at the resident British Minister an insulting rebuke that must for ever lower that resident Minister in the eyes both of Spaniards and of Englishmen in Spain. But the insult cannot be rebutted; and it was Lord Palmerston who wantonly gave the opportunity for offering it.

It might have been supposed that "the recent downfall" of the French Government would have suggested to any diplomatic politician of respectable faculties that an opportunity had arrived for retrieving British influence in Madrid, if it is necessary to have any influence there at all: Lord Palmerston, however, selects the occasion to establish a position by impertinent meddling, and to provoke a degrading repulse which must destroy British influence. It is impossible, in reading the Viscount's arrogant laconisms, not to call to mind the seductive place-begging letter written, about the time of the Spanish marriages, to the rival that out-jockeyed Lord Palmerston, by the wife of his chief, Lord John Russell. M. Guizot obliged Lady John, and balked Lord Palmerston: he gave the place of tax-collector to Lady John's lady's-maid's husband, and secured the place of husband to the Spanish Infanta for the Duke de Montpensier; who has arrived in Madrid just in time to witness this new and most mortifying fillip on the nose administered to our Foreign Secretary.

Lord Palmerston seems to think that he is one of the responsible Ministers of Spain; for his letter amounts to no less a pretension. It is said that the Spanish Government has demanded the recall of Mr. Bulwer. One retort remains to Lord Palmerston, which, in these days of retrenchment, would not be grudged by the English people—to abolish the Madrid ambassadorship, and so back out of these idle squabbles.

THE GREAT ALTERNATIVE—MR. KAY SHUTTLEWORTH OR THE BISHOPS.

(From the *Patriot*.)

Like other great personages at this time of general commotion, the important gentleman who exercises the functions, albeit without the title, of minister of public instruction in this country, finds his rule and authority jeopardized by the clashing and incompatible claims of Church and State. Mr. Kay Shuttleworth might have fancied, like another Metternich, that he had secured the triumph of his policy. Having a *carte blanche* from the Privy Council, and a good understanding with the bishops—having neutralized the Borough-road, and repulsed the forces of Crosby-hall—he might suppose that he would henceforth experience no opposition to his great project for raising this semi-barbarous country to the high intellectual and moral level of France and Germany. The House of Commons have shown themselves ready to vote any sum for this purpose that it might be deemed prudent to ask for; Hume and Cobden, Radicals and Free Traders, thinking it a highly liberal scheme, which promises to elevate all the instructors of the people to the dignity of State stipendiaries, and to convert popular education into an engine of police. Notwithstanding all these flattering appearances, a long-smouldering dissatisfaction with the Minutes of Council has at length risen to a height which threatens open revolt in a quarter where it might least have been looked for. "The dispute between the Church and the Privy Council Committee," says a clerical correspondent of the *Times*, "has now been brought to a point." The point itself would not appear to our readers to be one upon which opposition could be very safely maintained; but "Clericus" is of opinion that "the time has arrived when the nation must make their selection between State education and Church education; or, in other words," says the *Times*, "between education according to Mr. Kay Shuttleworth and education according to the bench of bishops." A very pretty alternative, truly! "The object of Government," according to our contemporary, "was, that the schools should be Church schools, and not

clergy schools." "What we (the Times) require are neither State schools, nor clergy schools, but Church schools." While affecting, however, with most Jesuitical subtlety, to differ from the Puseyite correspondent in this respect, the writer of the leading article suggests, as a compromise, that "more of the ecclesiastical element" might be admitted into the constitution of the board of local management; or, if a power of appeal be found indispensable, there might be constituted something like a board of reference, of which the bishop of the diocese might be *ex officio* chairman. "Clericus" himself contends only that the ultimate authority of the school should be in the diocesan as the official visitor. Here, then, we have a distinction without a difference. The letter and the leader may even have proceeded from the same pen; they are plainly from the same quarter, and betray the crafty spirit of encroachment by which our anti-state-churchmen of the High Church school are actuated. Imagine how beautifully this plan of vesting the ultimate authority over all Church schools in the bishop would work just now in the diocese of Exeter! A man who proposes, in times like these, to arm the bishops with increased power must be either a knave or a simpleton. But, says "Clericus," a "great alternative is at this moment presented to the Church of England."

If we join in demanding our just and undoubted right of vesting the ultimate administration of our Church schools in the Bishops of the Church, we shall have Church education. If we suffer the present opportunity to pass by without securing this point, we shall have State education. Let men look the alternative steadily in the face. It is no time for half measures. They will sacrifice the benefits of both systems. If State education be, indeed, admissible, let us adopt at once a thorough scheme of State education. We shall then have schools enough, and the law will compel parents to avail themselves of them. But if (as I am firmly convinced) the evils of this system far outweigh its advantages, then let us be firm in demanding (what, if we unite in demanding it, Government cannot refuse us) such regulations for the schools which we are founding at our own expense as shall effectually exclude these evils.

Founding at their own expense! Let them maintain the schools, then, at their own expense, and there will be an end to their difficulties. But this is an audacious assertion. The clergy have not founded schools at their own expense, but want to have their schools maintained at the expense of the country, while uncontrolled by any State authority. Mr. Kay Shuttleworth is charged with insidiously, or, in his own phrase, "unostentatiously" usurping the power of arbitrating in all disputes,—of deciding the real meaning and intention of the school constitution, whenever a difference arises, by a reference to the Committee of Council; "that is, to himself."

Be it observed, says "Clericus," the schools in question will be in many ways connected with, and dependent upon, the aforesaid Secretary; they are to be visited and reported upon by Government inspectors; the master's salary is to be aided by the parliamentary grant; the pupil teachers are to receive from it, year by year, their whole maintenance. It is plain, then, that, if the custom once creeps in, of referring to Mr. Kay Shuttleworth any disputed points, he will have opportunities in abundance of enforcing his decisions and of preventing the escape of the schools from his grasp. It will then be a very small step to refuse Government aid to those schools which reject Government authority, as it is now refused to those which object to Government inspection; and forthwith Mr. Kay Shuttleworth will be, in fact, Minister of Public Instruction, whether he think it expedient to assume the name or not.

This discovery, on the part of the clerical supporters of the Minutes of Education, reflects no credit upon their sagacity. It places them, in fact, in a very ridiculous light, if they have really only just now waked up to the object and tendency of the Government scheme. But, first to take the money, and then to quarrel with the conditions, is sheer dishonesty.

One thing is plain enough; to wit, that this pretty dispute is but the Church and State question under another phase. The Government schools are, and were meant to be, "Church schools." This is now admitted. All the hypothetical twaddle about secular education may be regarded as a mere mystification of the subject. It is now recognised on all hands, that, in the scheme of State Education, the Church enters into partnership with the Government. Not the Church of England only, but every Church which accepts the pay of the State, enters into an alliance with the State.

HOW TO OBTAIN CONCESSIONS FROM THE WHIGS.—For the love of justice, cudgel the Whigs. Cudgel them at all hours and under all circumstances; in season and out of season; in summer and winter; full and fasting; in sunshine and by moonlight; by land and sea; in Parliament and out of Parliament; in full house and in committee; in deputation and in mobs; by speech and writing; and if need be, by that very material cudgel for which their bodies (as their souls) must needs feel a perpetual hungering. Oh, cudgel them well—spare not; for by doing so the Whigs have been made to understand in the middle of a session that concessions must be made to Ireland, and that the first business after Easter must be the consideration of Irish political grievances.—*The Tablet*.

A LIVERPOOL PLEASURE-PARTY, consisting of eight ladies and eight gentlemen, went to Moslyn in the "Lucifer" steam-yacht; on returning, the vessel struck on the sand at Hoylake; the sand got into the feed-pipe, and presently the boiler exploded, tearing the vessel to pieces amidships, and forcing five ladies into the water—fortunately, they were rescued by boats.

THE REFORM MOVEMENT.

IMPORTANT CONFERENCE AT MANCHESTER.

(From the Manchester Times.)

It will be seen from the reports in another part of this publication, that Manchester is quietly gathering itself up for the great and now inevitable struggle about to take place for a further Parliamentary reform, having for its object a large extension of the suffrage, with vote by ballot, triennial Parliaments, and equal electoral districts. Previous to the Conference of which we are about to speak, it will be seen, by reports in other parts of the paper, that the meeting of the Collegiate Ward on Monday, to establish a Ward Association for these objects, was followed by a meeting in the Exchange Ward on Thursday, to establish a second association of the kind. We may also state that the other wards of the borough are about to move in the same direction. It is probable that when the opinions of the burgesses have thus been tested, a great aggregate meeting will be held in the Free-trade Hall, to which some of the Parliamentary leaders of the movement will be invited. This mode of establishing associations, and then forming them into a League, was that adopted by the Anti-corn-law leaders, and was found to work well, by bringing to bear a greater amount of individual energy on the movement, than could otherwise have been expected.

The most important meeting we have had this week, however, was a Conference held on Thursday night, of the leading members of the late League Council and of the old Manchester Reform party. This meeting was held at Newall's-buildings, and had been summoned in consequence of the numerous applications which had of late poured in from almost all parts of the country where the late League organization extended, expressing the utmost anxiety that the old leaders of that body should throw themselves into the new movement, and urgently requesting them to make known how far they were disposed to join in it. Great dissatisfaction, indeed, was expressed in some of these communications that nothing had been done already towards aiding this movement. It was a strictly private meeting, no reporters having been admitted; but no doubt some particulars respecting it will have oozed out by the time this meets the public eye, and we make no apology, therefore, for laying the most correct version of the proceedings before our readers which has come to our knowledge.

Amongst the principal gentlemen present were Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.; John Bright, M.P.; J. B. Smith, Esq., M.P.; James Kershaw, Esq., M.P.; Mr. John Brooks; Mr. William Bickham; Mr. Samuel Lees; Mr. Thomas Bright; Mr. Thomas Woolley; Mr. Joseph Simpson; Mr. Prentice; Mr. Ivie Mackie; Mr. John Hampson; Mr. William Morris; Mr. Peter Saville; and others—men who were, in fact, the very soul of the late free-trade movement, as they have been of every Liberal movement in Manchester for many years past. The meeting was a very large and crowded one. Mr. George Wilson was also present, and being unanimously called to the chair, said they had been urged to summon together the gentlemen present for that conference by a number of communications from all parts of the country, from people anxious to obtain their opinion on the present movement for reform, and as to their disposition to join in that movement. He represented to the meeting the great responsibility of joining in such a movement, and said nothing could justify it but the strongest and most extensive expressions of opinion in its favour. Those opinions should be elicited, to be worth anything, not as a mere general assent to resolutions, but by a direct appeal to every person who was to join it; and he commenced by calling upon every gentleman in that room to express his individual sentiments. The result was an exceedingly long conference, in the course of which every gentleman in the assembly declared himself favourable to the basis proposed—of household suffrage, vote by ballot, triennial Parliaments, and equal electoral districts. In the course of the proceedings, Mr. Cobden is understood to have said that he was aware that a great many people were anxious for a reduction of taxation and for retrenchment, and he was one of them. There were those who had expressed a fear that this movement would defeat or delay, rather than forward, that object, an opinion in which he did not concur, or he confessed that he would have no part in it. He believed this movement, indeed, would forward the other, and he expressed his conviction that, in a few years' time, a very large reduction in our expenditure was inevitable. Mr. Cobden is said to have spoken with even greater than his usual power, and to have awakened the deepest interest by his short address. Mr. Bright also expressed his sentiments in favour of a very large enfranchisement of the people being absolutely necessary.—A circular was ultimately agreed to be issued to all the principal supporters of the late free-trade movement throughout the kingdom; and it is intended, in the course of time, when answers shall have been received, that another meeting shall be held to further consider the matter. It appears evident that the parties who have got up the conference are determined to take no false step, and will not move unless they are likely to have such an amount of support as will ensure a successful result. The circular is in the following words:—

5, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, April 27, 1848.

Dear Sir,—A number of gentlemen have met here to-day, to consider what steps should be taken to promote a cordial union of all classes of Reformers in favour of an improvement in our system of Parliamentary repre-

sentation. They feel that increasing public expenditure and increasing taxation are causes of the deepest anxiety, and they doubt the possibility of any permanent remedy being applied whilst the tax-payers are, for the most part, excluded from direct influence in Parliament.

I have been requested to address this circular to you, to ascertain how far you think the extension of the franchise to all householders, with the protection of the ballot, the more equal distribution of the electoral power by means of electoral districts, and the shortening of the duration of Parliament to a period not exceeding three years, would afford a system of representation such as the middle classes, now partially enfranchised, would generally acquiesce in, and which the unenfranchised classes would accept as a substantial admission to their legitimate place in the constitution.

I shall be glad also to know whether you think that, at the present time, a movement is desirable in favour of the changes I have indicated, and if you are disposed to co-operate with an association founded for the purpose of promoting them. I shall be glad also to know what, so far as you have ascertained, is the prevailing feeling of the inhabitants of your town or district on the subjects to which I have referred.

The replies to this circular will not be published, and I will thank you to favour me with an answer at your earliest convenience.

I am, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

GEORGE WILSON.

It should be observed, that Mr. Wilson, in calling upon the gentlemen present to express their sentiments freely on the subject before the Conference, also invited gentlemen to say how far they were of opinion, from personal observation, that this movement would have the support of the middle and better classes of society with whom they came in contact; and the answers to this appeal appear to have been of the most encouraging and flattering nature.

IMPORTANT MEETING AT LEICESTER.

A great reform meeting was held at Leicester on Thursday night in the Amphitheatre, which is adapted to accommodate at least 5,000 persons. The *Leicester Mercury* speaks of the meeting as one of the most important ever held in the town. Both the pit and gallery were crowded in every part. The boxes were also well filled, as were likewise the slips over the stage; and the stage or platform itself was occupied by a large number of the leading Liberal inhabitants of the town—of every shade of political opinion comprised under the general term "Liberal."

Shortly after seven o'clock, JOHN BIGGS, Esq., the Mayor, took the chair amid general applause; and he was supported, among others, by John Ellis, Esq. (Deputy Chairman of the Midland Railway); S. Stone, Esq. (Town Clerk); Dr. Noble; Alfred Burgess, Esq.; the Rev. C. Berry; Joseph Fielding, Esq.; Joseph Whetstone, Esq.; Joseph Cripps, Esq.; the Rev. J. P. Mursell; the Rev. J. Smedmore; Messrs. Collier, J. D. Harris, R. Harris, jun., W. Baines, J. Baines, C. Billson, S. Wheeler, Manning, Winks, E. S. Ellis, Clarkson, Shardlow, Rowlett, How, Harvey, W. S. Harris, &c. &c.; including, as will be seen, several magistrates, aldermen, town-councillors, and the most zealous and consistent reformers in the town. There were also Messrs. Green, Markham, Reedham, and other leaders of the Chartist body in Leicester.

The proceedings were opened by the Mayor, in a judicious and sympathizing speech, in the course of which he stated that the present meeting had been called on a requisition signed by 128 highly-respectable inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, and spoke of it as "the most important meeting we have held since the Reform Bill."

Mr. WILLIAM BIGGS, in an able and elaborate speech, moved the first resolution:—

That the fundamental principle of the British Constitution being, that the people shall be fully and fairly represented in the Commons House of Parliament,—this meeting feels bound to express its deliberate conviction, that the House of Commons, as at present constituted, does not meet this most important and essential requirement.

Mr. GREEN, in seconding the resolution, said that previous to the calling of this great assembly, the parties who interested themselves in the motion of which Mr. Hume has given notice came to us (the Chartists) and consulted us as to the resolutions which should be brought forward. Most of the Chartists had a copy of the resolutions to be brought forward laid before them last Tuesday, and on Wednesday evening they came to the following resolution:—"That this meeting agreeably concurs in the notice of motion of Mr. Hume to inquire into the representation of this country, believing that such inquiry will benefit the National Charter Association; but should he afterwards bring forward any measure short of the People's Charter, we shall then give it our decided opposition."

It was then moved by the Rev. CHARLES BERRY; seconded by JOHN ELLIS, Esq.; and supported by JOSEPH WHETSTONE, Esq.:—

That this Meeting, being of opinion that the time is fully come when decided and energetic efforts should be made by all classes throughout the country for the accomplishment of the object set forth in the preceding resolution, bears with great satisfaction that Mr. Hume has given notice of motion for inquiry into the present state of the representation of the people.

Moved by Rev. J. P. MURSELL; and seconded by Mr. MARKHAM:—

That a petition to the House of Commons, founded on the foregoing resolutions (a copy of which has now been read) be prepared, signed by the Mayor on behalf of this meeting, and forwarded to the members for the borough; and that they be requested to present it, and support the prayer thereof.

Moved by the Rev. JOSEPH SMEDMORE; seconded by JOSEPH CRIPPS, Esq.; and supported by Mr. WINKS:—

That this meeting has great satisfaction in believing that the representatives for this borough—Sir Joshua Wainman and Richard Gardner, Esq.—are prepared earnestly to promote further Parliamentary Reform,—and desires that copies of the reso-

lutions now passed be forwarded to them, with the respectful request that they will support the motion of Mr. Hume by every means in their power.

Speaking of the spirit of the meeting the *Leicester Mercury* says:—"In an assembly, five-sixths of whom were Chartists and members of the working classes, the first speakers who 'travelled out of the record' were middle-class men, and they did not spare the political intolerance of the Chartists—yet with scarcely an exception their remarks were heard throughout with a manly good-nature and forbearance which did more good for the principle of universal suffrage than a dozen monster demonstrations or a thousand-and-one thunder-and-lightning speeches."

Our crowded space will not allow of our giving a report of the speeches delivered. We must, therefore, content ourselves with a short extract from Mr. Mursell's effective address, a speech replete with judicious and kindly advice to middle class and Chartist Reformers:—

Let us look at things in their right light, in the light of reason, in the light of truth, and in the light of revelation too [cheers]. We who are of the "higher" classes must take care what we are about, and our friends on the other side must take care what they are about [hear]. I want to put a plain question to you. I do not go along with my friend the Rev. Mr. Berry, and other gentlemen. I should be very sorry to go with them, indeed [cheers]. That gentleman will excuse me for saying so; but I thought, in my happy ignorance, that he had made great advances lately, but I find he is just where I left him sixteen years ago. However, I want to ask a question for explanation and illustration. It has been said to-night, by Mr. Green, and reference has been made to it again and again, that there must be "the Charter and no surrender" [hear, hear]—"hear, hear," too [cheers and laughter]. I want to put the question to you, for I am ignorant upon this matter. I want to know whether, in saying that you mean this—that supposing a vast mass of the middle class of society—I am not giving it as my opinion, I want to know whether it is your opinion—supposing a large body of the middle class of society were to say, "We perfectly agree with every part of your Charter, with one exception—we do not like to concede annual Parliaments," would you, because they prefer triennial Parliaments and you prefer annual Parliaments, throw up and abandon the Charter for ever [no, no.] Then it is not "The Charter and no surrender" [cheers]. You must not, therefore, as my friend Mr. Green observed, attach too much importance to mere words. Do not, at this great crisis of the nation's history—at this great era of our social condition, when we bring you the olive branch of peace, and when we are anxious to promote a union between all enlightened Reformers of every grade and every class—do not inscribe on your banners something that, when you come to explain it, you do not mean your inscription to convey [hear, hear]. On the other hand, if we are to create this important union, I beseech you not to expect to gain or carry everything in a day. You have to convince a great many people—and there are some here who will be convinced after a time—but you must take time; their sentiments deserve the utmost regard at the hands of this meeting. But you cannot compel the middle classes to come over to you; you must reason, and argue, and adopt all possible and proper means, and those who are convinced will come, and those who are not will stop away [cheers]. Let me show you what I mean here. There are many objections to universal suffrage. There are points in the Charter which are distasteful to very many most intelligent and patriotic men. It is not of any use for you to tell those people that the Charter must be right, and shall be carried. You must reason with them; you must meet their objections; you must compare notes with them; and if you have not the means of arguing yourself you must find men who can argue; if you have not got a halfpenny-worth of logic you must buy some, and if you have not got the money in your pocket, you must get some one to buy sixpennyworth for you [hear, and a laugh]. It is said on the part of the opponents of universal suffrage, and with great force—and it is the only argument that once staggered me, but I think I have lately got over it—that we at present complain that the management of the affairs of this country is in the hands of a certain party—that is, of a section—and that the aristocratic order of the land. On the other side, they say, "by your proposal you would transfer the management of the affairs of the empire to another section—that is, to the great working class of society, since they are very much more numerous than any other order; and as they are not the representatives of property, is it safe," it is said, "to pass into the hands of the opposite class or section—that is, the great working class of society—the management of the affairs of this country?" You must not pass by those objections as if they were mere crude prejudices. They have taken hold of the minds, and of the consciences too, of most respectable persons, and you must overcome those convictions [hear, hear]. Do not expect too much from the cause you are advocating. There were some admirable remarks made by Mr. William Biggs, and to which I fully subscribe. I do not believe that political changes necessarily bring about immediately vast social advantages. I think the one is connected with the other in the order of things. But I do not think that, as a legitimate result, it is in the nature of political changes to make every man happy in his own personal case and individual condition. It would take a long time to follow that argument through all its details; I am not going to discuss that point this evening. But supposing the Charter to be realized by you, do you suppose that all the troubles and anxieties and annoyances in social life that happen to you would be done away with? No such great advantages would accrue; but you are contending for your just privileges, and it is right you should have them, if those social advantages do not accrue. . . . Of all possible evils upon which any people can fall back, the doctrine of physical force is the worst. Repudiate the man who teaches you that you are to have recourse to physical agencies. Resolve, whilst such men are teaching you to make pikes, that you will construct your arguments—while they point their bayonets, sharpen your wit—whilst they gabble your physical force, spread your opinions. Walk hand in hand with the middle classes of society; and onward marching in your moral strength, when you appear at the door of the Senate-house, present the Charter, and the Charter shall be granted to you [loud cheering].

GREAT MEETING IN BIRMINGHAM.

BIRMINGHAM, Monday, 1 o'clock.—This morning we have witnessed one of the most extraordinary meetings ever held in Birmingham. The electors and middle classes generally were invited to meet at ten o'clock, in the Town Hall, admission by ticket, to hear an address from Mr. Henry Vincent, "On the State of the Country, and on the Duties and Responsibilities of the Middle-classes at this Crisis." Shortly after ten o'clock, the large hall was densely crowded in all parts, the principal reformers of the town occupying the organ gallery. Mr. Muntz and Mr. Scholefield, the two members for the borough, were present, and were enthusiastically received. Mr. Alderman Palmer was called to the chair. He addressed the meeting at length; avowed himself for universal suffrage; but insisted upon the necessity, above all things, for union between the middle and working classes. He then introduced Mr. Vincent, who was received with protracted cheering. Mr. V. first directed attention to the state of the country; the distressed condition of the operatives, and the depression of the middle orders; to the rapid increase of pauperism and poor-rates; from which he

deduced that the country was in great peril. He then directed attention to the Parliament, and proved, by reference to its conduct during the present session, that it had lost the sympathy even of the middle classes. He gave statistics of the increase of taxation since the Reform Bill; then analyzed the composition of the House, proving that a majority of its members were returned by 150,000 electors. He then glanced at the continental revolutions, and affirmed, amidst peals of cheering, that it was a Conservative measure to radically reform the House of Commons. He then examined the two projects of reform before the country—the household plan, and the plan for universal suffrage; and by various arguments he showed that universal suffrage was not only right in principle, but that in practice it would be preferable. He urged, however, great kindness in the discussion of these differences; and said that the man was a traitor to liberty who would throw obstacles in the way of any class of reformers. He wound up with a vigorous appeal to the middle classes for universal suffrage, and sat down amidst long-continued cheers.

Messrs. MUNTZ and SCHOLEFIELD spoke admirably. They were both for universal suffrage, but would support the household movement. Mr. Muntz referred to Sir J. Walmsley's letter to show that in household suffrage it was contemplated to enfranchise the lodger [loud cheers].

Mr. JOSEPH STURGE (who was vehemently cheered) hoped the people would have done with names if they got the thing [cheers]. He hoped the new society would go for householders and lodgers; and though he held that man should be represented, and not property, he would not quarrel if justice could in any way be done to the people.

Mr. DAWSON also made a splendid speech, in which he denounced anything like dogmatism on any side. He was for universal suffrage, but would help a movement for householders and lodgers.

Mr. VINCENT proposed three times three cheers for the suffrage, and the union of the middle and working classes, which were given with great spirit, the whole meeting rising. A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Vincent, who left the meeting amid hearty applause to proceed to Manchester, where he addresses the electors to-night.

This has indeed been a splendid meeting. A large body of Chartists were present, who were thoroughly cordial in their support of the proceedings.

BIRMINGHAM.—The leaders of the party signing the manifesto in favour of household suffrage and other reforms, have adopted the title of "The Reform League," and have convened a public meeting at the Town-hall for this (Wednesday) evening, to form rules and prescribe the course of action. The declaration had received the signatures of 7,000 persons up to Saturday. Mr. George Edmonds has accepted the post of President of the League. In addition to this, Mr. Councillor Baldwin and the leaders of the more advanced reformers are not inactive. They issued the following declaration of principles to the gentlemen composing the people's party in the House of Commons:—

We, the undersigned electors and non-electors of the borough of Birmingham, feeling deeply interested in the peace, welfare, and progress of our country, and desiring that the changes in the Government which are now rendered essential from the evils of the long misgovernment of this great commercial nation should be effected upon principles which will fully represent all classes, and thereby prevent the recurrence of political excitement, which is ever injurious to the interests of trade and industry, and having deliberately and seriously considered the avowed object sought by your honourable and disinterested opposition to the Ministry, we respectfully submit for your consideration that household suffrage, in addition to the unjust exclusion of large sections of intelligent men of all ranks, would not in its operation secure so safe or so efficient an electoral body as a suffrage founded upon principle, and guaranteeing to every male citizen of twenty-one years of age, unstained by crime, the right of voting in the election of members to constitute the Commons House of Parliament. Anxious to render every aid to support your efforts without a compromise of principle, we cannot but express our confident hope, that when your honourable party have maturely investigated the defective, complicated, and exclusive nature of a household suffrage, you will find so many evils and difficulties accompanying such a change, that you will at once perceive the policy and justice of demanding an extension of the electoral right founded upon mature age, character, and residence. We would also urgently impress upon your minds, that in openly and unreservedly declaring upon principle for the full and complete enfranchisement of the adult male population, and throwing your influence upon an enlightened public opinion, you will be sustained by a degree of moral energy and prudence which will enable you to accomplish this great measure of national justice by the legitimate exercise of constitutional authority, despite the opposition of corrupt and interested factions. We may observe, further, in support of the principle previously urged, that a large section of the most intelligent and well-educated citizens, including a large number engaged as assistants, clerks, and travellers in trade, whose employments render the occupation of a house inconvenient, and in many cases impossible, until advanced age, and also a large portion of the most provident of the working class, who, from the unsettled state of trade, and the insecurity and want of sufficient employment, do not consider it prudent to incur the responsibility of a family, must, through the operation of household suffrage, be excluded from the exercise of civil rights, whilst it would enfranchise a section at least of the most vicious and depraved. With sincere respect for the dignified and honourable position you have assumed in the present critical and distressed condition of England, giving hopes and assurances to millions that the destiny of this great empire will shortly pass into the hands of men capable, by their experience, ability, and patriotism to emancipate the social interests of the people, we respectfully submit for your consideration this conscientious declaration of our sentiments, with the sure and certain hope that when looked upon as the utterance of the feelings and opinions of a great majority of the people you will see sufficient reason to render the object of your exertions the extension of the suffrage to every male citizen of twenty-one years of age.

This party have convened a meeting, of the electors only, at the Town-hall, for Monday, when Mr. Vincent was to be present, and address the meeting on the state of the country, influence of the continental movements upon our political condition, and duties and responsibilities of the middle classes at this crisis.

SUFFRAGE MEETING AT BRADFORD.—On Tuesday afternoon, April 25, a public meeting of the inhabi-

tants of the borough of Bradford, convened by the Mayor, in compliance with a numerously-signed requisition, was held at the Temperance-hall—and, by adjournment, in an adjacent field—to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament for such a change in the representative system as will make taxation and representation co-extensive. The Mayor presided; and, after a few observations, in which he intimated an opinion in favour of a further extension of the suffrage, requested that a patient hearing should be given to all the speakers. Mr. W. E. Forster then rose to propose the following resolution:—

That this meeting, recognising the absolute duty of maintaining order, while it is impressed with a conviction that the present state of the nation earnestly demands the most searching reforms, both as regards the representation and the taxation of the people, does yet strongly condemn all attempts to obtain such reform by any means inconsistent with loyalty, respect for private rights, or the preservation of the public peace, having full faith in the power of moral force, by the constitutional expression of public opinion, to procure all needful changes in the laws of the country.

Mr. Forster having spoken at some length in support of his motion, it was seconded by Mr. B. Godwin, who declared for a large extension of the suffrage. Mr. Lightowler, who had been the delegate for Bradford at the late London Convention of Chartists, supported the motion, which he said he should willingly vote for, as they would prefer obtaining the Charter by the moral power of the people, and it was only in case that power should fail, that they would think of resorting to any other power to effect its accomplishment. The resolution passed unanimously. The Rev. Mr. Clowes, of Horton College, moved the next resolution:—

That this meeting is of opinion that the people of this country have great and just cause of complaint against the Government for its lavish expenditure of the public wealth, its inattention to the complaints of the people, and its denial of their just and legitimate rights; and this meeting is further of opinion, that no Government either can, or ought to, have the confidence of the people, until every male adult in the kingdom, who is of sound mind and untainted with crime, is put in possession of the elective franchise.

He regretted that he had not strength to advocate this resolution as he could wish, for it was one on which he had set his heart a great many years ago. The resolution was agreed to. Mr. Charlesworth then moved:—

That this meeting deems it necessary and desirable, in order to put a stop to bribery and corruption at elections, that voting by ballot ought to be instituted.

Mr. Samuel Bottomley seconded the motion in a very discursive speech, and it was adopted. A smart shower of rain, which fell soon afterwards, put a summary finish to the proceedings, thanks being voted to the Mayor before the assembly broke up.

Speaking of the resolution adopted relative to the suffrage, the *Leeds Times* says:—

There is no truckling or compromise in this, no halting between right and wrong, no stopping at the half-way house between justice and injustice. The men of Bradford know themselves to be in the path of principle, and, at the risk of being called "extremes," they go boldly on. If truth and justice admit of "extremes," they have the courage to be "extremely" true and just. They rally round the only principle which is consistent with political equality, the only principle which affords a common platform or citizenship for all; and they will find that the course they have adopted, is as expedient as it is just; for this principle, and this alone, will unite the industrious millions in a movement powerful enough to bear down the opposition that the privileged classes can array against it.

The various resolutions were ably advocated. In another page will be found a copious report of the speeches delivered on the occasion, by Messrs. Forster, Godwin, Charlesworth, Lightowler, Mensforth, and Nicholson, the Revs. F. Clowes, and H. Dowson, and others. The importance of the subject, as well as the interest of the speeches themselves, will ensure them a careful perusal.

The resolutions in favour of direct and equitable taxation and of religious freedom, we shall take other opportunities of referring to. The views enunciated on these important subjects are in exact accordance with those supported in our own columns, and to which we have very recently directed the attention of our readers. With Mr. Dowson, we believe that the separation of the Church from the State will never be accomplished, until we have an Universal Suffrage Parliament.

The fraternization of the middle and working classes at the Bradford meeting was complete and enthusiastic.

A similar meeting has been held at Bury, Lancashire, at which a Parliamentary Reform Association was formed, to advocate the principles of universal suffrage, vote by ballot, annual Parliaments, payment of members, and equal electoral districts.

THE REFORM MOVEMENT IN NEWCASTLE.—A portion of the middle classes of this town, anxious for a union amongst all classes of Liberals, have formed an association upon the basis of universal suffrage. Two or three conferences have been held with the extreme Chartist party, who, though not willing to amalgamate their movement in the new one, promise they will not throw any obstructions in their way. The society, as soon as fully organized, expects to have a substantial addition from the ranks of the more orderly of the working classes, and those of the middle classes who hold views in consonance with their own. O'Connor Chartism, with its fantastic tricks, of late has made itself contemptible and odious to the thinking portion of the community: it never was so feeble for good or evil here as it is just now. What is wanted in the north, as elsewhere, is a national organization for some thoroughly practical measure of Parliamentary reform. Parties here are anxious that H. Vincent, or some other leader in whom the country has confidence, should make a tour, and indoctrinate the people in views fitted to the emergencies of the times.

SHEFFIELD.—The following placard has been extensively posted in Sheffield. A correspondent informs us that the requisition calling on the sitting members to resign will probably be signed by a considerable majority of the electors:—

TO THE ELECTORS OF SHEFFIELD.

Gentlemen,—You were induced to return two placemen to Parliament at the last election, under the impression that they would push on the Ministry.

Have they done so? Is not the session of 1846 likely to be

the most barren in useful measures of Reform that we have had for years? Have not Messrs. Parker and Ward dwindled down into mere mouthpieces of the Ministry? Already we have seen enough to convince us that they have ceased to represent the people of Sheffield. Let us retrieve our mistake. Call on your MISREPRESENTATIVES to resign.

The requisition is already formidable; let it be overwhelming. Let Sheffield join Manchester in reading the Minister and his underlings a lesson they cannot forget.

Let us have free and honest representatives, who will support the new movement of large towns, for *Peaceful Reform, Equal Taxation, and Reduction of Expenditure.*

Those electors who have not signed the requisition, are respectfully requested to do so as early as possible, as it will only lie for signatures at the following places a short time longer:—Mr. Wiley's, Haymarket; Charles Milner's, Fargate; Mr. Ingham's, printer, Union-street; and Mr. Jennings's, Shales-moor. (By order of the Committee.)

Bank Coffee-rooms, April 28th, 1848.

LEEDS.—A meeting, convened by circular, of the leading Liberals of this borough, took place on Wednesday evening last, at the Reform Registration offices, Wellington-street. The object of the meeting was to consider whether any and what steps should be taken by Leeds in favour of the new party in the Commons for an extension of the suffrage, a reduction of the national expenditure, and an equitable adjustment of taxation. The meeting was numerous and influential. Upon this point considerable discussion arose, and eventually, upon a show of hands, a large majority pronounced in favour of universal suffrage in preference to the comparatively worthless half-measure of a household franchise. There was only one resolution proposed, which, in effect, was an instruction to Thomas Plint, Esq., to place himself in communication with the leading Liberals in the principal towns of the West Riding, for the purpose of ascertaining their opinion upon the propriety of a movement at the present juncture, and the extent of suffrage likely to suit the views and unite the exertions of all sections of the Liberal party. When replies have been received from the gentlemen addressed, another meeting will be called finally to decide; but we understand there is a strong feeling on the part of the leading Liberals of the Riding against an agitation at the present time, and that they will consequently decline uniting with any active movement anterior to the rising of Parliament. We are informed that an attempt has been made at Sheffield to organize a West Riding demonstration, to support the members of the House of Commons who have taken the initiative in the new Reform movement; but, in compliance with the expressed wish of some or all of these gentlemen, the projected West Riding agitation has, so far as Sheffield is concerned, been postponed *sine die*.—*Leeds Times*.

GLASGOW.—We understand that a requisition addressed to the Hon. the Lord Provost of Glasgow, for a public meeting of the electors to be held on an early day, "to consider the propriety of petitioning the legislature for a full, fair, and free representation of the people in the House of Commons," is at present in the course of signature, and has already obtained upwards of 300 signatures of electors.—*Glasgow Post*.—The Glasgow Electoral Association, which has been recently formed with a view to effect a cordial union of all classes of the citizens for the purpose of forwarding such measures as may be deemed most advisable to obtain a reform in Parliament, have issued a stirring address to the electors, calling upon them to unite to put an end to class legislation by entranchising the whole people.

At Sheffield, a declaration of principles embracing an extension of the suffrage, &c., has been prepared by some gentlemen of the Liberal party, and it is proposed to submit it for consideration and signature, with a view to making it the basis of a political association. At Huddersfield an address from electors to non-electors to a similar effect is in course of signature.

POST-OFFICE NOTICE.—By a recent notice issued from the General Post-office, it is announced that money orders presented through a banker residing in the town in which the order is payable, shall be paid without the payee's Christian name being signed in full, or the name of the remitter.

MUTINY AND MASSACRE ON BOARD A CONVICT SHIP.—It turns out that the "General Wood," a convict-ship lost in January, while going from Hong-kong to Bombay, was run aground by the convicts themselves, after a successful mutiny. The convicts, armed with wood billets, got access to the arm-chest, and then slaughtered every officer and lascar aboard, except one or two whom they made to steer the ship. The captain lost presence of mind, and was slain early; but the second mate, a youth named Gills, fought with extraordinary determination, and slew numbers of his assailants before he was disabled. Lieutenant Seymour and his wife were saved, as passengers; the first having been driven overboard, and forced to hang in the water by the rudder for a whole night. The ship was run aground on rocks near the island of Bunganow; the greater part of the convicts were recaptured by the Malays, and put under guard for the English authorities. Some thirty, however, gained boats, and escaped; but pursuit from Singapore and Penang is actively on foot.

LEEDS VOLUNTEER RIFLE CORPS.—We some time ago mentioned that it was in contemplation to form a corps of this description in the borough of Leeds, and that the necessary preliminary steps had been taken by several gentlemen in the town with a view to its establishment. Since then the Secretary of State has been communicated with upon the subject, and we understand that his reply is of such a character as to give no direct encouragement to the organization of such a body.—*Leeds Mercury*.

THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

IMMIGRATION TO THE WEST INDIES.

The House of Commons re-assembled on Monday pursuant to adjournment from Saturday the 22nd ult., but so limited was the number of members present at the earlier period of the sitting that after the private business had been disposed of and petitions presented an hon. member moved that the house be counted, but it appearing that forty members were present it awaited the period for commencing public business, when, on the motion of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, it resolved itself into a committee of supply, the right honourable baronet moving a grant of £5,000 to defray the advances made for the purpose of relieving destitute persons in the island of Tobago, consequent upon the hurricane of last year, which had desolated that island, which was agreed to. After a short discussion a further grant of £50,000, by way of loan to the planters of Tobago, to enable them to restore their properties to the state in which they were previous to this visitation, was also agreed to. Subsequently the right hon. bart. obtained leave to bring in a bill extending the period for five years within which repayment is to be made of the hurricane loans to the West India islands.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER then proposed that a sum not exceeding £200,000 be granted to defray the expense of the transport of labourers from the East Indies to the colonies of Trinidad and Guiana. A debate on this proposition ensued, in the course of which Mr. HUME moved, on the ground that the money had been spent without first having received the sanction of the house, that the vote be postponed until the committee of inquiry into the state of the West India colonies should have made its report. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER intimated that he had proposed the sum of £200,000, thinking it better to avoid occupying the time of the committee by two discussions when one would suffice; but, rather than go to a division, he would take a vote for £170,000, this amended proposition being received with loud cheers.

Mr. HUME again interposed, contending that it was unconstitutional for any colonial secretary, as had been the case in the present instance, to pledge the House of Commons to the payment of £200,000, without its sanction. As a matter of principle, therefore, and in order that time might be given for the production of the papers in reference to the subject, he moved that the chairman do report progress, and ask leave to sit again. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he could not accede to this proposition. The money had been actually voted by the colonial legislatures, and would eventually have to be repaid by the colonies in question.

The committee then divided—For the grant of £170,000, 76; against, 21; majority in favour of the grant, 55.

ALIEN BILL.

Sir G. GREY, in a speech declaratory of the necessity which existed for the adoption of the measure, proposed the second reading of the Removal of Aliens Bill.

Sir W. MOLESWORTH, on the ground that the powers proposed to be conceded by the bill had not been required to be granted in the most dangerous period of English history, and which were exceptional in every point of view in which they could be considered, moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

The speakers in favour of the amendment were Lord D. STUART, Mr. W. J. FOX, Mr. URQUHART, Mr. HUME, Dr. BOWRING, and Mr. EWART. Those in support of the motion, in addition to the right hon. mover, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, Mr. H. DRUMMOND, Lord ARUNDEL and SURREY, and Captain HARRIS.

The speech of Mr. FOX was especially able and telling, of which the following is the principal portion.

No necessity whatever had been shown for the bestowment of powers, which, to say the least, were capable of obnoxious and cruel application, which placed the convenience, the property, and the liberty of individuals at the mercy of the ministry for the time being—which exposed a man to that sort of attack, against which it was so difficult to defend himself—that of anonymous writing to the Secretary of State. That high functionary seemed thus to be brought into contact with a class of people with whom an English government never need have anything to do; his office was to have a back door for the receipt of calumny and imputation, under the plausible pretext of public safety, which might after all be only the emanation of individual spite, and the desire of gratifying individual vindictiveness [hear, hear]. These powers might be used offensively towards man or woman; for it could not be forgotten that the first person deported under the law of 1793, from which in a great measure this bill was taken, was a woman, who could not seriously threaten the peace of this country—a widow—Lady Edward Fitzgerald [hear, hear]. He could not agree with the hon. baronet the member for Southwark at this was a glaring inconsistency on the part of Ministers. All depended on the point of time with which the comparison was instituted. By going back a few years it might be brought out in very striking colours; but, looking at the last great measure which had been carried through that House, it must be admitted that this was a very consistent and appropriate supplement to the "Act for the better security of the Crown and the Government" [hear, hear]. The one belonged to the other: they dove tailed perfectly;—

Sure such a pair was never seen,
So justly formed to meet by nature.

They completed the conversion from the policy of the old Whigs of this country to the policy of Pitt, of Sidmouth, and of Castlereagh, which, beginning with the first of these measures, might be considered as carried on some way towards its completion in the second [hear, hear]. The threat which Pitt once used against his great op-

ponent, "to un-Whig the government," could not be used by the opponents of the present government; for they had most efficiently un-Whigg'd themselves for the rest of their days [hear and laughter]. The only reason given for the measure by the right hon. baronet (Sir G. Grey) was, that he was afraid of republican missionaries. But the danger of French republican missionaries was at this time, surely, at the very lowest point of probability. The power which any Frenchman would possess of exciting an English multitude to violence "by open and advised speaking," was surely in a very limited degree. The ridicule which the hon. baronet had alluded to was sure to arise; and this had always been so great that the most accomplished French tragedian, Talma, had never been allowed to act Hamlet on the English stage, because it was felt certain that the very first sentence he uttered would throw an English audience into a roar of laughter [hear, hear]. We must look in a different direction for the danger, if any, of republican principles, and must direct our legislation rather against the writings of the illustrious dead of our own country, than against living missionaries from foreign lands. The great republican teachers—if England could be taught republicanism—would be found upon the shelves of our libraries—Milton, Sidney, Hampden, More, and others of later date; and if they—addressing us in our native tongue, and giving us that language in all its richness and power, and surrounded by so many associations which commanded our reverence—almost our idolatry—if they did not make us republicans, where was the genius or skill, the eloquence or persuasiveness, amongst Frenchmen, Germans, or any other people, to seduce the inhabitants of these realms from their allegiance to their Queen? [hear, hear.] But it might be said it was not merely republicanism in the common sense of the word, for the free institutions of this country had at least as much affinity with the republicanism of other countries as with the despotism of other countries—but the doctrines of socialism and communism which we had to fear. To lull our ears let us take example from the noble-minded man who was now at the head of the French people. Socialism and communism had been the rock-a-head of the Provisional Government and the people of France throughout this trying season; and though our socialist and communist leaders had been in France during the whole period, fraternizing with the leaders of those opinions there, and making themselves conspicuous, had he deported any one of them? [hear, hear.] Much better were it to imitate this example, especially with the means which we possessed in such abundance for a full sense of our own security. This and the other measure lately passed for the better security of the Crown and Government were as worthless for the real security of the institutions and peace of this realm, as the parchment on which they were engrossed would be as a buttress to that venerable abbey in whose shade they were deliberating, which had stood the storms of centuries past, and would abide the storms of centuries yet to come [hear, hear]. It was not in legislation such as this that our safety was to be found; nor could he agree with the learned Attorney-General in thinking that if the Bill did no good, at any rate it could do no harm. Such measures did this harm: they falsified the character of this country; they put us in an untrue position as to the public opinion of Europe and the rest of the world; they declared apprehensions which did not really exist, or for which there were no real grounds; they imputed feelings of pliability and fickleness, of proneness to be easily led into violence, which were not the characteristics of the people of this country; which never had been, and which never would be [hear, hear]. They put us in this false position, and were likely most injuriously to affect our relations with other countries [hear, hear].

On a division, the second reading was carried by a majority of 119, the numbers 141 to 22.

THE ELECTIVE FRANCHISE IN IRELAND.

Sir W. SOMERVILLE moved for leave to bring in a bill to regulate the elective franchise, and for the registration of Parliamentary electors in Ireland:—

The bill it was proposed to introduce had for its object, first of all, strictly to define the franchise, and for this purpose he intended to fall back upon the rating under the poor-law [hear, hear]. All the existing franchises requiring occupation would be at once abolished, and in lieu thereof a simple rating to the poor, of the net annual value of £8 and upwards, would be substituted. He did not propose any change in the franchises which did not require occupation; but he proposed that the £8 franchise should extend to cases of joint occupancy, provided rating of the property, when divided, proved sufficient to qualify the parties. He also proposed to give the franchise to owners of fees simple of the value of £5. He believed this alteration would give an immense increase to the constituency of Ireland, though by no means an increase which, looking at the circumstances of the country, could be considered unfair by England. Now, as to the registration. He proposed that clerks of poor-law unions should transmit to clerks of the peace annually complete lists of the parties rated within the respective baronies. The clerk of the peace having added the names of owners, the list, upon publication, would be the list of voters. With regard to towns, it was not proposed that any change should take place in the qualification; but great complaints having been made as to disqualifications arising from non-payment of local rates, he proposed to abolish all such qualifications, except with respect to non-payment of poor rates.

He should lay the bill on the table, in order that its provisions might be considered, and when he proposed the second reading he should be prepared to go further into the subject, and to justify the bill, if necessary, in its principle and different details.

Mr. FREWEN asked if he understood aright that tenants-at-will, rated at £8 per annum, were to have a vote?

Sir W. SOMERVILLE replied in the affirmative. Mr. C. E. LAW asked, was an occupier for six months to have a vote, supposing he paid a single rate? A party might have been in another part of the parish for a long time and not have paid. Would he thereby be disqualified?

Sir W. SOMERVILLE said the practice most probably would be, that all arrears should be carried on. Mr. HUME hoped the non-payment of rates would

not be mixed up with the question of franchise in any way whatever. There were proper modes of recovering rates without disqualifying the voter. He should be glad to know what was the right hon. baronet's estimate of the increase of the Irish constituency under this bill.

Sir W. SOMERVILLE supposed the number of electors would be at least quadrupled.

Mr. HUME (*sotto voce*): Oh! that's nothing [laughter].

Sir D. NORREYS expressed his great satisfaction at the increase, and his conviction that it would be of the greatest benefit to Ireland. He expressed his regret that the Government had left the town franchise in Ireland untouched.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

The right hon. baronet also obtained leave to bring in a bill for the establishment of additional polling places in wards in towns in Ireland and for limiting the period for holding elections in counties to two days.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PUBLIC WORKS IN IRELAND.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER then, in an explanatory speech, in reference to the public works carried on in Ireland during the last two years by means of loans and grants made for that purpose, moved for powers to readvance any sum not exceeding three years' instalments, or £945,000, limiting the readvance in all cases to the amount actually repaid into the Exchequer, for the purpose of continuing the public works already commenced, with the view of giving employment to the people during the ensuing autumn and winter; which motion, after a short discussion, was agreed to.

VOTE BY BALLOT.—Mr. H. BERKELEY has given notice that he will move, on the 11th instant, the adoption of vote by ballot in the election of Parliamentary representatives.

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE.—At a meeting of the members of this Association, held in the Guildhall Coffee-house, on Wednesday, the 26th ult., it was unanimously resolved:—

That the members of this Alliance desire to record their heartfelt thanks to Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., for having determined to bring before the House of Commons the present state of the representation; and they fervently hope that he will follow up his motion by bringing in a bill, in which the principle of manhood suffrage shall be fully recognised, carefully secured by such details as shall cause it to be exercised fully, fairly, and freely.

MEETING OF THE TRADES OF LONDON.—An aggregate meeting of the trades of the metropolis assembled on Wednesday at the National hall in Holborn, to receive a report of a committee on the destitution of the London trades, and to consider remedies suggested. The report stated that the workmen of London are about 200,000 in number: of these, 66,000 are out of work; 66,000 have casual work; and only 68,000 have full work, on reduced wages. It suggested several causes of this bad state of things—such as the monopoly of land by individuals, whereas land ought to be held in trust for all by the State; the fixed price of gold; the competition of prison and workhouse labour with free industry; and the competition of foreign produce, now admitted at lower duties. [An expression of dissent here escaped from one of the audience; who was immediately silenced, and forcibly turned out of the room]. Eight resolutions, asserting principles or recommending remedial measures, were proposed for adoption. The following are specimens:—

That for the just protection of the rights of labour, a Labour protecting Board be established; the members of which shall be selected by the working classes, and, in virtue of their appointment, be entitled each to a seat in the House of Commons—the President being a member of the Cabinet—as the representative of labour and the guardians of its rights.

That a measure should be passed to protect the labouring classes from the existing unequal system of competition from foreign manufactures and iron and workhouse labour; each trade being called upon to determine what amount of work would constitute a fair day's labour, and the law affixing upon that amount a fair remuneration.

That it is a primary duty of the Government to introduce measures that will immediately secure employment and education for all who require them, with a guaranteed sufficiency of the necessities and comforts of life to each.

The resolutions also demanded the establishment of self-supporting home colonies; the substitution of a graduated property-tax for all other taxes; and the extension of the electoral suffrage to every sane man aged twenty-one years and unconvicted of crime. After lengthened speaking, an amendment was proposed, going for all the points of the Charter, and for repeal of the Union with Ireland. A stormy debate arose; and it ended in the adoption of the amendment by a majority of the meeting.

PUBLIC PETITIONS.—From a return just printed, it appears that the number of petitions presented to Parliament during the five sessions ending 1837, was 37,183, with 12,118,213 signatures; in the five sessions ending 1842, the numbers were, petitions, 70,072, signatures, 23,450,299; in the five sessions 1843-47, petitions, 71,985, signatures, 17,275,981. Total number of petitions presented in the above fifteen years, 189,240, total signatures, 52,845,103. Of the above petitions the total number printed was 17,661.

SUICIDE OF A LADY.—In the Minister-yard, Lincoln, the body of Mrs. Cookson, widow of the late Dr. Cookson, was found in a well at the top of the garden. The deceased had complained of her head very much on Monday, and wept bitterly. She had also said to the servant, "you hate me, Eliza;" and on her replying that "she did not—why should she?" the deceased rejoined, "because all the world does."

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

RESULT OF THE ELECTION IN PARIS.—The examination of the returns was concluded on Friday night at a late hour, at the Hôtel de Ville. From nine o'clock in the morning, detachments of the national guard lined the square in front of the building. In the Hall of St. John an immense platform was erected, with benches and tables for the scrutators delegated from the several mairies and the cantons of the *banlieues*. About two hundred persons were employed at these bureaux. When the operation was completed by the votes of the army and the garde-moblie, being combined with those of the arrondissements, the mayors of the arrondissements, with M. Armand Marrast at their head, advanced and proclaimed the following thirty-four members elected to represent in the National Assembly the department of the Seine:—

* Thus marked were members of the late chamber. ** Thus marked were members of former chambers, but not of the late chamber. M. Moderate republicans, understood to entertain the opinions of the majority of the Provisional Government. U. Ultra democrats, communists, &c., &c., understood to coincide with the minority of the Provisional Government. G. Members of the Provisional Government. C. Members of the Provisional Cabinet. ? Doubtful.

1. *Lamartine	250,800 G.C.M.
2. *Dupont (de l'Eure)	245,083 G.M.
3. *François Arago	243,640 G.C.M.
4. *Garnier Pagès	240,890 G.C.M.
5. Marrast	229,166 G.C.M.
6. *Marie, Mayor of Paris, and editor of the <i>National</i>	225,776 G.C.M.
7. *Crémieux	210,699 G.C.M.
8. Béranger, poet	204,271 M.
9. Carnot	195,608 G.C.M.
10. Bethmont	189,252 C.M.
11. Duviolier, General Commandant of the Garde Mobile	182,175 M.
12. *Ferdinand de Lasteyrie	165,156 M.
13. *Vavin	151,102 M.
14. Cavaignac, General-Governor of Algeria	144,187 M.
15. *Berger, Mayor of Arrondissement	136,660 M.
16. Pagnier, Secretary-General to Provisional Government	136,117 M.
17. Buchez, Adjoint to the Mayor of Paris	135,678 M.
18. *Cormenin, President of the Council of State	135,050 M.
19. Corbon, ouvrier, carver in wood, and principal editor of <i>L'Atelier</i>	135,043 U.
20. Causidière, Prefect of Police	133,715 U.
21. Albert, ouvrier	133,041 G.U.
22. Wolowski, Professor at Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers	132,333 M.
23. Peupin, ouvrier, clockmaker	132,909 ?
24. *Ledru Rollin	131,587 G.C.U.
25. J. P. Schmitt, Maître des Requêtes	124,383 M.
26. Flocon	121,865 G.U.
27. Louis Blanc	121,140 G.U.
28. Recurt, Adjoint to Mayor of Paris	118,076 M.
29. Agriol, Perdiguer, ouvrier, carpenter	117,290 ?
30. Jules Bastide, Sub-Secretary of State to Ministry of Foreign Affairs	110,226 M.
31. Coquerel, Protestant Minister	109,934 M.
32. *Garnon	106,747 ?
33. Guinard, Colonel of Artillery of National Guard	106,262 M.
34. L'Abbé de Lamennais	104,871 M.

It thus appears that the 34 members for the department of the Seine may be classed as follows:—Moderates, 25; ultra democratic, &c., 4; doubtful, 5. There are among them 12 ex-deputies, 2 journalists, 3 ouvriers, 1 Catholic clergyman, and 1 Protestant clergyman.

THE ELECTIONS FOR THE PROVINCES.—FORMIDABLE OUTBREAKS AT ROUEN.—In very many places conflicts ending more or less fatally have occurred between the Republicans and the opponents of the Republic, and with the authorities who sought to preserve or restore order. Rouen, during the last three days of last week, was the theatre of a succession of conflicts infinitely more severe than those which in Paris terminated in the overthrow of the Government of Louis Philippe. Barricades were in that city on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last, erected, attacked, and defended, with a skill, a courage, and an obstinacy that would in other circumstances have called for admiration. Cannon, loaded with "round and grape" alternately—the musket—the bayonet—the sabre—gave to the troops and the national guards the victory on each of those days. A letter from that city, dated Saturday night, says:—

It has been impossible to ascertain the number of killed and wounded, as each party removed their men as they fell. More than 300 of the insurgents have been made prisoners. It was found necessary to carry every barricade with the bayonet, under the protection of volleys of grape-shot. The town has been placed under martial law. The chief command has been given to General Ordonner. Sentinels are placed at each house, and a strong guard is stationed at the corner of every street, supported by cavalry and artillery with lighted matches. It is estimated that there are 30,000 operatives in the town of Rouen, and double the number in the valleys adjoining, but the latter refused to rise, saying they had no arms.

Some columns of insurgents quitted Rouen this morning to excite an insurrection at Elbeuf, Louviers, and Evreux. They succeeded only at Elbeuf, but their triumph was short, for a military force despatched from Paris, and assisted by the national guard, succeeded in suppressing the insurrection.

At Castelsarrasin also a collision took place on the elections, in which two persons were killed. At Limoges most violent proceedings have taken place. At Nismes, the insurrection was at one moment formidable. Throughout the Rue de Dome various disorders had taken place. At Rochfort, the ballot-boxes were burnt by the people under the belief that frauds, contrary to the interests of the Republicans, had been committed by the returning officer.—A great number of the members of the old Chamber of Deputies have already secured seats in the National Assembly, and the number is daily increasing. Among the number are several whose names are as well known in England as in France, such as M. de Tocqueville, M. Berryer, M. Leon Faucher, M. Mauguin, M. Billault,

M. Duvergier de Hauranne. At Marseilles, M. Thiers has been defeated by a *portefaiz* (a porter on the quays). M. Thiers has not appeared as a candidate for any Department but that of Bouches du Rhone, which he represented in the Chamber of Deputies.

THE GERMAN PROPAGANDISTS.—The *Moniteur* contains a decree on the subject of the German bands. It premises that peace exists and ought to be consolidated between the states of the Germanic Confederation and the French republic, and that these bands are an object of alarm and a subject of misunderstanding with those states; wherefore it decrees that all the assemblages of Germans on the Eastern frontier shall be dissolved. The Ministry of War is charged with the execution of the decree, which is signed by all the members of the Government. Confidence is fast rising on the Bourse, and the prices of all stocks are advancing. The Mint is coining one-centime pieces, from the dies of Dupré, the engraver for the old first republic.

M. LAMARTINE'S REPLY TO THE AMERICAN ADDRESS.—On Thursday, M. Rush presented letters of recognition of the French republic, from the President of the United States. M. Lamartine replied as follows:—

Citizen Minister, the Provisional Government has charged me to represent it at this moment, to receive from your hands the first act of official recognition of the French republic. France was the first to recognise the independence of the American republic, then young, weak, and still contested; but which, under the fruitful influence of the democratic principle, was destined in half a century to increase to the proportions of nearly a whole continent. By the retributive justice of Providence it has belonged to the American republic to be the first to recognise the new French republic, and so to affix its signature to the certificate of birth of French democracy in Europe. That signature will bring good fortune to the republic. Notwithstanding the agitations and embarrassments inseparable from such a crisis—from the downfall of the government and the creation of institutions of quite a different character—from so great a displacement of men and things, say to your fellow-citizens, that everything gives us the assurance that their good wishes for France will be accomplished, and that the republic will issue strong and great from our feeble hands, to pass still stronger and greater into the hands of the whole nation. What gives us that confidence is, that the French people are henceforward ripe for their institutions. What was fifty-five years back only the idea of the superior men of the nation, has passed into the ideas and habits of the whole people without exception. The republic which they wish for is that which you have yourselves founded—a progressive republic, but conservative of the ideas of property, manufactures, commerce, probity, liberty, and the moral and religious feeling of the citizens. It is a republic of which the first cry was a cry of generosity, of fraternity; which shattered to pieces the arm of vengeance and political reaction; which proclaimed peace, and which in place of inscribing on its banner the fatal words of expropriation and proscription, has inscribed there the abolition of the pain of death and the fraternity of nations. These principles, adopted, as we hope they will be, by the national assembly, strengthened by an invincible public force, of which each citizen has constituted himself, as you have seen, the voluntary soldier, concentrated in a strong representative unity of government, will make the French republic the glorious sister of the American republic; and it may be said of the French people and of the American people what a man dear to our two countries applied to them—that they are the republic of the two worlds. As to the sentiments which the French people return with sensibility and gratitude to the citizens and to the Government of the United States, I shall express them to you in a word—every Frenchman has for the Americans the heart of Lafayette.

DISSENSIONS.—LAMARTINE AND ROLLIN.—Another explosion is reported to have taken place within the Provisional Government on Tuesday evening, in which, as usual, MM. Lamartine and Ledru Rollin were in open conflict; the latter desired the further postponement of the meeting of the Assembly, the former peremptorily opposed it; the latter threatened a popular demonstration, the former treated the menace with contempt. M. Ledru Rollin then declared that he would have Paris covered with barricades. M. Lamartine rose and declared that he set his colleague at defiance, that the majority of the Government were quite prepared for any measure of that description promoted by the Minister of the Interior, and that they would resort to effectual measures to defend it. After this, report says, M. Ledru Rollin lowered his tone. This may afford an example of the scenes which are daily occurring in the councils of the Provisional Government.—*Daily News*.

Government has announced at last its decision to abandon the decree which it had passed for the disposssession of the railway companies. It is understood that the question will be brought before the Assembly.

The Provisional Government has sent an order, by telegraph, to Marseilles, that General Cavaignac, Governor of Algeria, shall immediately come to Paris. The intention of M. Lamartine is, it is believed, to appoint General Changarnier at once Commander of the Army of the Interior, in case the ultra minority of the Government should really attempt a revolutionary movement.

The Provisional Government has decreed that the Palace of the Louvre shall be terminated; that it shall take the name of the "Palais du Peuple;" that it shall be destined to the exhibition of paintings, manufactures, and to the national library. The decree adds that all the "Peuple des Travailleurs" are called on to co-operate in the works for completing the palace.

The *National* announces, on authority, that M. Guizot was married in London, three years since, to the Princess Lieven. It was agreed, for political

reasons, that the marriage should be kept secret as long as M. Guizot remained in office.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION.—The framers of constitutions are at work: M. Cormenin has nearly completed a draught of one which he will submit to the Assembly. It contemplates but one Chamber, and an Executive Government of many ministers. This will suit the plates of the ambitious; but the plan that is deemed most likely to be successful is one founded on the constitution of the United States, with two Chambers and a President and Vice-President, the duration of the presidency to be five years. If this be adopted, the whole country will nominate M. Lamartine to the presidency.—*Times' Correspondent.*

PORTUGAL.

ABOLITION OF INDIRECT ELECTIONS.—Lisbon, April 19.—The British press has for some time become almost oblivious of Portuguese affairs in the excitement of revolutions, barricades, and bloodshed, which have in a few weeks so completely changed the aspect of Europe. Portugal may now, however, also boast of her revolution, effected in the centre of the Chamber of Deputies by the concession made to the people of the right of electing the national representatives by the direct, or English system, instead of that of indirect elections, which appears to have been resorted to in this country for the express purpose of facilitating corruption and suffocating the suffrages of the people.—This virtual revolution was effected on Monday by sixty-one votes against thirty-six, affirming, in opposition to the committee's report, and in spite of every exertion on the part of M. Silva Cabral and his ultra-Cartista party, that the sixty-third article of the Charter does not establish indirect elections as a fundamental principle, unalterable without the concurrence of a new Chamber, elected with special powers in conformity with the 142nd article. The immediate consequence will be the formation of a new electoral law upon the direct system, which had already been adopted here in 1820 and on the occasion of the revolution of September in 1836, but was again suppressed upon Costa Cabral's (the Conde de Thomar's) restoration of the present Charter in 1842.—*Correspondent of the Times.*

RUSSIA.

A SCLAVONIC NATION.—Several letters in the *Cologne Gazette* are filled with apprehensions of an approaching conflict with Russia. The declaration of the Viceroy of Poland, Prince Paskewitch, to the Polish noblemen, is indeed fraught with the elements of anxiety for all Germany. The Prince bids them turn to the Emperor, who would soon be able to prove to them that Russia loved them better than Germany. He asked them to wait in patience for a few weeks and months, and that their children and their children's children would remember the kindness and praise the generosity of the Emperor of all the Slavonians. The scheme of Nicholas is stated to be no less than a union of all the Slavonic tribes into one gigantic federative monarchy, and consequently the attainment of an unlimited sway over Europe. Mr. Struve, the republican, whose native country is Russia, is said to have been in uninterrupted communication with St. Petersburg, as a spy of the Emperor's.

GERMANY.

THE REPUBLICANS IN THE SOUTH.—BOMBARDMENT OF FRIBURG.—Intelligence has been received that a public meeting at Friburg (Baden) on the 22nd was attended by about 2,000 peasants, besides the townspeople. In the evening the peasants, who were very tumultuous, refused to leave the town, and the authorities sent in all directions for troops. These arrived by railway and quick marches on Sunday noon, when one detachment was attacked suddenly by a considerable band of peasantry coming from the fields. That detachment was commanded by General Hoffmann, and the fight lasted from three until six. The peasants were completely routed and dispersed, and the town enclosed by troops on all sides. The insurgents within the walls, however, barricaded the town and the streets and defied all attack. General Hoffmann, who during the night had ordered a sufficient park of artillery to be brought up, summoned the town to capitulate, and, upon its refusal, the town was bombarded on Monday morning from half-past four to twelve, upon which the Nassau troops took it by storm. A great many of the insurgents were made prisoners, but the majority fled. The town is said to have suffered considerably, and the number of killed to be more than sixty. Martial law has been proclaimed in various districts of the Duchy.

BADEN.—A letter from Mannheim, of the 26th, says, that an encounter had taken place there on that day between the Republicans and the troops of Nassau. Several people were killed, and peace was only restored at six in the evening, when the Nassau troops were gathered in their barracks, and a deputation of citizens sent out to Karlsruhe to demand their removal. A letter from Bâle states that the Baden republicans there have not yet lost all hope. Hecker had an interview on the 21st with his friends. It is said that several thousands of men of free German corps are on the march to Bâle. Hecker had received orders to leave Bâle.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF POSEN.—The *Allgemeine Preussische Zeitung* of the 27th publishes a Royal decree, according to which the national reorganization of the Grand Duchy of Posen is to begin at once, now that the condition under which it was promised—namely, the peace and order of the provinces—is, in its most essential points, accomplished. Part of the former Netzt district, and of the district of Snowerclaw, and the districts Birnbaum, Meseritz, Bombst, Franstadt, Samter, Buck, the western parts of the districts of Obernük and

Posen, with the city and fortress of Posen, the southern parts of the districts of Kroben, Krotoschin, and the city of Kempen, are to be excluded from the reorganization. These parts are to be incorporated with the Germanic Confederation, but the other parts of the Grand Duchy of Posen will have a constitution of their own. The language of instruction and of the civil and law courts is to be Polish. All officers, judicial, military, or administrative, must be natives of the province. The "Landräthe" shall in future be elected by the inhabitants of the district, and the arms of the Grand Duchy will be quartered with the arms of Prussia. The Poles who live in the German parts and the German residents are, lastly, called upon to divest their minds of all apprehensions for their religion, their property, or the safety of their persons. They are told to rely upon the inequality before the law, and its energetic administration. The order is dated the 26th of April, and signed by all the Ministers.

The *Prussian Official Gazette* of the 27th contains a decree calling together a general evangelical synod for Prussia.

A voluntary loan of seven millions of florins, for war expenses, was proposed by the Bavarian Government on the 17th.

ITALY.

DISAPPROBATION OF GREAT BRITAIN.—England, as we are assured from an undoubted quarter, has not only expressed decided disapprobation at the irruption of King Charles Albert into Lombardy, but has also declared that if, in consequence of the late procedures of the King, which are contrary to the treaty, Savoy should be separated from the Sardinian states, or Genoa declares itself independent, he must ascribe these losses to himself alone, and be individually responsible for any other consequences which cannot yet be calculated upon, and which may result from his breach of the treaty.—*Daily News.*

THE BELLIGERENT ARMIES.—On the 23rd ult. the armies of Charles Albert and Radetski remained exactly in the same positions. Peschiera had not yet fallen, nor had the King of Sardinia made any other important movement. The free corps and volunteers have received checks from the Austrian troops on several parts of the frontiers, both of the Tyrol and the Friuli; but no large bodies of Austrians had appeared in any direction. Roman and Tuscan contingents are earnestly expected, but hopes of assistance from Naples are almost abandoned, in consequence of the King having recommenced hostilities against his late Sicilian subjects. The *Times* correspondent, writing on the 23rd ult. says:—

Unless diplomacy takes this question in hand, I fear a long time will elapse before it is settled by force of arms. The Piedmontese and Austrians appear to be acting on the same cautious system, and as both are said to be waiting for reinforcements, which do not arrive, I know not when the battle is to be fought which is to decide this great affair of Italian nationality and Lombard independence. . . . The sooner, therefore, diplomacy takes the matter under its care, the better for all parties; and if Lord Palmerston wishes to immortalize his name in Italy, he should open negotiations without delay at Vienna, to induce the Austrian Cabinet to recognise the independence of these provinces. . . . A struggle has been going on for some days between the Piedmontese and the Republican parties here; but I find the former has wealth and numbers, and the latter no chance of success, unless it happens that Charles Albert commits some grievous fault, or fails in some of his ambitious projects, when, of course, the Republicans will again appear. Two of the best heads I know here are the leaders of that party; but the dread of republicanism is so great in Lombardy that even their Roman virtue fails to recommend it. There are two things which the Milanese hold in dread—the one a commonwealth, and the other French assistance. . . . The enthusiasm for Pio Nono continues unabated, but the King of Naples is generally mentioned in no complimentary manner. Hints are thrown out that the second son of Charles Albert is to be a bidder for the new Sicilian throne; so that his Majesty of Sardinia seems overwhelmed at present with military and regal honours, both for himself and his descendants.

DECLARATION OF SICILIAN INDEPENDENCE.—The King of Naples has, for the present, if not for ever, lost his Sicilian crown. The following bulletin appeared at Palermo on the 13th instant:—

The Parliament declares,—1. Ferdinand Bourbon and his dynasty are for ever fallen from the throne of Sicily. 2. Sicily shall govern herself constitutionally, and call to the throne an Italian prince, as soon as she shall have reformed her *statuto*.

Done and resolved at Palermo, on the 13th April.

The President of the Chamber of Commons

Marquis of TORREARSA.

The President of the Chamber of Peers, Duke

of SERRADIFALCO.

The President of the Kingdom, RUGGERO

SETTIMO.

The town was illuminated the three nights following. The bronze statues of the house of Bourbon, except that of the good Charles the Second, were thrown down by the people, and will be cast into cannon by the Government. The bombardment of Messina is continued with unmitigated violence: the Sicilians have nicknamed Ferdinand the "Rè bombardatore"—the bombardier King.

The Neapolitan Ministry has been reinforced by several members of Radical principles.—D. Francesco Ruggiero, an advocate, has been named Minister for Ecclesiastical Affairs; D. Paolo Imbriani, Minister of Public Instruction; Giovanni Bursotti, coadjutor of Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Conforti, Minister for the Interior.

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

DEFEAT OF THE DANES BY THE ALLIED FORCES.—

On the 22nd ult. the Prussian army made a general attack on the Danish entrenched position. Their line has been forced in three places—on its centre and two extremes; they have been driven out of Schleswig; and the Germans have even got possession of Flensburg in their rear. A general attack was made at three in the afternoon of last Sunday, in three divisions. The centre of the Germans, under General Wrangel, stormed the dam of Dannewirke with irresistible ardour, and carried all before them at the point of the bayonet, without assistance of artillery; though not without obstinate resistance, and severe loss. The Danes, 12,000 strong, were surprised: two false alarms had been raised on previous days, and the attack was serious before they resisted with full energy. The mines which they had prepared were rendered useless by a singular accident: a great North-east wind drove up the Baltic waters so high into the Schlei, that the mines were flooded and explosion was rendered impossible. The Danes were finally driven out of Schleswig, about midnight; and on Monday morning the German flag was seen waving from the tower of Gottorp Castle. The Hanoverians, under General Halkett, on the extreme left, and the Holstein troops under Prince Frederick, on the right, were no less successful than the centre of the Germans: the right crossed the Schlei on rafts willingly furnished by native boatmen. The final position of the Danes is not clear. It is said they have fortified themselves between Schleswig and Flensburg; if so, they are surrounded. Later accounts, however, state that they had evacuated the latter town.

The loss of the Prussians, as far as can be gathered from the unauthenticated accounts, is about 60 men killed and 150 wounded, principally of the 2nd and 20th regiments. Up to Monday morning 116 wounded had been brought into the Rendsburg Hospital; that of the Danes is not yet known, but probably, from having fought comparatively under cover, it is not so great. The letters and journals describe the joy of the Schleswigers at their deliverance as excessive; they have had to support a Danish army for fourteen days, and it was becoming a grievous burden. The people, too, as suspected of German tendencies, were not on a very cordial footing with their guests, and their absence is no doubt felt as a relief from restraint and guarded intercourse.

A SECOND DEFEAT.—A private letter from Rendsburg of the 28th states, that the Danes had concentrated the whole of their forces in and round Flensburg, which town was, on the morning of the 26th, surrounded and attacked by the Prussian troops. The Danes fought with great bravery, and succeeded several times in beating off their enemies, but were at last conquered. The Prussians did not make many prisoners, for the Danes, leaving all their baggage behind, fled to their ships, but many of them were drowned before they could reach them. The Prussians took about 12 cannons and the military chest, with between 12,000 and 15,000 dollars. The Danish vessels are windbound in the Flensburg Fiord, and exposed to the fire of the batteries on shore.

The King of Denmark has recovered his health, and was about to remove from Frederica to Odemer.

AUSTRIA.

In Vienna people begin to doubt the good faith of the present Ministry. They remark, that to carry out honestly and conscientiously measures of reform, the choice of Fiquelmont as Minister is a bad one; he is the personification itself of the Metternich system, more Russian, perhaps, even than the latter, besides being as old and as unpopular.

The *Weiner Zeitung* of the 18th of April publishes a decree relative to Styria, which ordains, that from the 1st of January, 1849, all quit rents attached to the soil, to demesne lands and right to titles, as also rents in kind, and all services, are to be changed into a money payment, based upon an equitable computation.

The States of Moravia and Silesia have unanimously rejected the project of union with Bohemia, which the inhabitants of Prague, by petition, had expressed a wish should take place.

Hungary is greatly excited by the occurrences in Italy. A violent opposition is made at Pesth against the employment of the Hungarian military beyond the Hungarian frontiers; and the Pesth Committee of Security has requested the Ministry to recall the Hungarian military from Italy and Galicia. The Archduke Stephen departed suddenly at midnight on the 14th instant for Vienna, to proceed to Brunn, where serious disturbances have commenced.

The Poles of Cracow are in high delight at receiving intelligence that the Emperor is inclined to permit the re-organization of Galicia on a national basis. The Austrian Poles and the Germans act in harmonious contrast with the Poles and Germans in Posen.

The Transylvanian Diet is summoned for the 29th of May.

A German paper, published at Pesth, contains an "address to the Thracian Slavonians," in which Servia, Montenegro, Bosnia, and Bulgaria, are called upon to assert their independence, and form themselves into one state. Moldavia and Wallachia are said to be in a state of insurrection.

A letter from Pesth (April 15), in the *Times*, contains the following:—

In Hungary, affairs are in the worst state; one continued series of Ministerial blunders is driving the country rapidly to the verge of a most sanguinary outbreak, if not of general revolution. The first grand mistake that the Diet made was the insisting on having an entire Cabinet of Ministers; for all good-working purposes two would have been sufficient—Finance and Public Works; but they must have the whole batch; and this, without having taken any steps so to modify the existing laws connected with county governments,

as to prevent the latter having it in their power to throw difficulties in the way of, and even to refuse adopting, decrees of the Ministers. The consequence is, the Government are at daggers drawn with the counties. The first mistake of the Ministry itself was the issuing of the edict concerning newspapers: this was publicly burned. Their second, and still greater one, their not coming, immediately on their formation, from Presburg to Pesth. A so-called Central Club has been formed at the latter place, has put itself into communication with the counties, and is now really assuming a threatening position, and defying Government. All order is at an end; governors and magistrates seem completely paralyzed; they have the means of repressing disturbances, but no one seems to think of employing them. A tendency to reaction is also manifesting itself among the nobles, who are disgusted at finding they are losing—many have entirely lost—their influence. They were quietly proceeding to elect Ministers, when the students of Pesth had already named, and the Chamber of Deputies adopted them.

INDIA.

Advices have been received to the 1st of April. At Calcutta public attention has been occupied with disclosures connected with the recent pecuniary crisis, chiefly as regarded the affairs of the Union Bank, and the fact of large defalcations in the funds entrusted to officers of the Supreme Court. The bank, which a few months ago declared its affairs to be in a promising state, is now known, besides having lost its immense capital, to lie under a deficiency of at least £70,000, for which the shareholders, as a joint-stock body, are declared liable. The alleged misappropriation of funds by directors connected with sinking firms had become a theme for angry clamour and recrimination, fruitless except as a lesson to others. A question had been raised as to the validity of post-bills issued by the bank of great importance, as to the amount for which the shareholders are liable. Conflicting opinions had been given on the point by counsel, and the matter was about to be decided in court.

The East India railway is abandoned for a time. The greater part of the working staff had already been sent back to India.

There are accounts of the serious illness of the Rajah of Sattara, but by the latest advices he was said to be somewhat better. As that Prince leaves no direct heirs, (under an agreement not to marry,) the state of Sattara will, at his death, escheat to the India Company, who will thereby obtain 15 or 16 lacs of revenue, and its civil service acquire several valuable appointments.

Considerable transactions in the import market are reported from Bombay, after an unprecedentedly long depression. At Calcutta another firm, Messrs. Haworth, Hardman, and Co., had suspended payment.

BORNEO, 18th February.—It was rumoured that the Sooloo pirates were engaged in fitting out an expedition against Bruni, to revenge the death of the pirates executed by the Sultan after the defeat of their squadron last year by the Hon. Company's steamer "Nemesis." The Sooloo maulauders were not then aware of the attack which was preparing, calculated to give them enough of fighting nearer home.

The navigation laws, so far as India is concerned, have been abolished, and from the 25th of March, 1848, ships of all nations import goods on equal terms. The duties on goods passing from one port in the Company's dominions to another have been extinguished. The island of Singapore is a free port altogether, where not so much as a custom-house exists. It is on the highway betwixt India and the Eastern Seas. Goods from China, Manilla, or the Dutch East Indies, imported into Singapore and shipped again from India, will be directly free. It is supposed that this is an oversight, and that it was not intended by the act.

INSOLVENT MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.—A bill brought in by Messrs. Moffatt and Brotherton, entitled "A bill to enforce and render more effectual the laws relating to the qualification of members to sit in the House of Commons, and to provide for the exclusion therefrom of persons who shall be proved to be unable or unwilling to satisfy their just debts," proposes to enact that after the passing of this act no person shall be qualified to serve as a member of the House of Commons if he shall be proved to have suffered any judgment, decree, rule, or order, for the payment of money, to remain unsatisfied, or not sufficiently secured, for the space of six months, unless such judgment shall effect him solely as a trustee or an executor. The complaints of unsatisfied creditors against members of Parliament are to be referred to a select committee of the House of Commons, and if a report be presented to the house unfavourable to the sitting member complained of, it will be received as final; the sitting member will be declared disqualified, and a new writ issued for the election of a more "honourable" member in his room. The preamble of the bill affirms the necessity of "preserving the dignity and independence of the House of Commons" by some such enactment.

THE BUCKINGHAM ESTATES.—On Thursday, the entire of the valuable timber, principally oak, standing in the woods at Stowe, Foscott, Thornborough, Finmore, Hillesden, Falcutt, and Ashwell, the property of the Duke of Buckingham, were sold by public auction at Buckingham. The sale produced upwards of £22,000. On Wednesday the Clare estates were disposed of to a single purchaser at a fair rate, after having been put up unsuccessfully in separate lots. On Thursday the Queen's County estates were also disposed of, after a very spirited competition by a great number of purchasers. They brought from twenty to twenty-five years' purchase.

COURT, AND PERSONAL NEWS.

MR. ANEURIN OWEN, Poor-law Inspector, has resigned office from ill-health, and been succeeded by Mr. Doyle, lately acting under the Poor-law Board in Lancashire.

Cabinet Councils were held at the Foreign-office on Thursday and Friday, at which there were full attendances of Ministers and lengthened conferences.

Tuesday was the birthday of the Princess Alice, and was suitably "kept."

Visitors arrive and depart: Sir Robert Peel, the Baron de Beust, Sir George Cowper, the Honourable and Reverend C. Leslie Courtenay, to join the royal dinner party and stay a night. An order was issued from the palace on Friday, signifying the Queen's wish that the ladies attending the drawing-rooms, and invited to the palace, shall appear in dresses of British manufacture.

QUEEN ADELAIDE arrived at Spithead in the "Howe," 120 guns, at eight o'clock on Thursday morning, and was duly received and congratulated by the authorities. Her Majesty's health has been improved by her winter stay in Madeira. Prince Albert came from Queen Victoria, with gracious compliments and an invitation to Osborne, which was accepted, and a visit of a few hours was accomplished by means of the "Fairy" steamer. Queen Adelaide returned to the "Howe" in the afternoon, and came to town on Friday at noon.

APPOINTMENTS.—The Earl of Camperdown is to have the new red riband of the Order of the Thistle, held by the late Marquis of Bute. Mr. W. D. Christie, of the Temple, late M.P. for Weymouth, is appointed Agent and Consul-General of Great Britain in the Mosquito Territory. Mr. J. Toupin-Nicolas is appointed her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Mobile, state of Florida, United States.—*Observer*.

SENATOR BANKS, who arrived in England on a special mission, on Friday, from the Germanic Diet, had a long interview in the afternoon of that day with Lord Palmerston, at the Foreign-office.

POETRY.

OUR GAIN BY '48.

Up—up to Heaven with all your joy;
Up, give your rapture voice;
Yes, England too's to share the move
That makes the world rejoice.
Well may your bursting joy go up
In one exulting roar;
Shout—we're to gain a gagging bill,
And yet three bishops more.

Blush—blush, you scorners of the Whigs,
Now own that Heaven sends
These rulers to our thrice-blessed land,
But for the people's ends;
Ho—scatter to the winds your doubts,
If doubts you've felt before;
Shall we not get their gagging act
And then three bishops more?

Whigs—Whigs—O Whigs, who'll hold you still
As senseless—as insane—
As fools, who dream that England now,
Alone will nothing gain!
Hark—hear you not your thundered praises,
Roared up from shore to shore?
The nation's blessings for your bill,
And your three bishops more?

Ho, reeking wynds of Glasgow—ho,
You dens of foul St. Giles,
Ho, starving hands of Lancashire,
Fate—fate upon you smiles;
Drudge, starve, and die; rot in your filth,
All brutes, you've been before,
Yet roar your thanks to Heaven for Whigs,
You'll get three bishops more.

Osborne Place, Blackheath.

W. C. BENNETT.

PRIZE ESSAY ON THE SABBATH BY WORKING MEN.—In December, 1847, a benevolent and pious gentleman proposed to give prizes of £25, £15, and £10, for the best, second-best, and third-best essays on the temporal advantages of the Sabbath to the labouring classes. The competitors were to be working men in the strict sense of the expression, the essays brief, and sent in on or before the 30th of March, 1848. The adjudicators, Mr. Robert Kettle, of Glasgow; Mr. Alexander Swan, of Folkestone; and Mr. D. F. Oakey, of London. Incredible as it may seem, the number of working men—men engaged at some kind of handicraft from morning to night—who have entered the lists on this occasion, is not smaller than NINE HUNDRED AND FIFTY. Those who have had the privilege of glancing at this immense mass of prize essays by working men, speak of them as characterised by much accuracy of style, great argumentative power, and a general concurrence of just thought. The adjudicators have publicly notified, that, supposing they were able to examine thirty essays per week, they have upwards of thirty weeks' labour in reading alone, so that it will be the end of October, or the beginning of November before they can publish their decisions.

THE ATTEMPTED SUICIDE OF MR. STEELE.—Mr. Steele, the head pacificator, was brought up at Bow-street on Wednesday, when evidence was given of his having attempted to commit suicide. Mr. Jardine, after some consideration, cautioned Mr. Steele against the repetition of the offence, and said that he would hold himself bound in £100, and two sureties in £50 each, that the offence should not be repeated. Mr. Steele thanked the magistrate in the most grateful manner, and expressed his hope that the reporter would give expression to his intense gratitude to the waterman, the police, and the authorities of King's College Hospital, for their kind exertions and humane conduct towards him.

It is stated that lead stolen from gutters, &c., has a ready sale among the Cork rifle people to cast into bullets.

LITERATURE.

The Female Poets of Great Britain, chronologically arranged, with Copious Selections and Critical Remarks. By FREDERIC ROWTON. London: Longman and Co.

A BEAUTIFUL volume; exquisite in typography, and charming in its varied contents. Men have been too often the painters of their own sex, and much of the results of woman's genius has passed unnoticed and unknown. It is a worthy task to twine their laurels into a wreath like this, consisting of an equal proportion of ancient and modern female poetry. The selections are good—the author's comments made with a veritable discrimination and a correct perception of poetical excellence, and the marginal prose worthy of the poetry it is intended to introduce. Specimens of nearly a hundred poetesses are here given. To an intelligent young lady this volume will be a treasure.

The Unwedded Wife. London: W. Jones, Paternoster-row.

A TALE of sorrow; but so well told as to have peculiar force in deterring from the crime. Such publications are wanted, and we are not sure that a false delicacy is not standing in the way of important usefulness.

A History of the Hebrew Monarchy, from the Administration of Samuel to the Babylonish Captivity. London: J. Chapman, Strand.

As a book of reference, this volume may be extensively valuable. It brings together much information, and condenses much thought. As a guide to opinion it is remarkably defective, being an exhibition of the purest rationalism. Not only are miracles repudiated, but even transactions which we had supposed clearly enough related on the sacred page are philosophized into a new meaning, or, in some connexions, treated as possessing "all the vividness and detail which characterises romance, but not to be reduced within the limits of reality."

Sub Rege Sacerdos: Comments on Bishop Hampden's Case, with an Epitomized Report of the Proceedings. By P. PROFESSOR CRESTY. London: Taylor and Walton.

It is an instructive feature of the present times that not only is the question of Church and State assailed by strong and grave objections from without, but that it is exposed to an infinite variety of difficulties from within. Of these difficulties, the legal proceedings in the case of Dr. Hampden are a very instructive specimen. The pamphlet before us is a legal opinion, drawn up, we think, with much force and clearness on the whole controversy, and in favour of the absolute power possessed by the Crown. Well may every Churchman deplore that such scenes as those recently enacted in Bow Church and in the courts of law should be published in "the streets of Askelon!"

The Bedfordshire Tinker; or, the History of John Bunyan: written for young children. By G. E. SARGENT. London: Green, Paternoster-row.

THOSE who have young children, and who have experienced the difficulty of providing books to suit them, will be glad to hear of this little volume. It is simple, pure Saxon; a really admirable production.

The National Spelling Book; or, Easy Guide to Useful Knowledge. Illustrated with 150 Engravings. London: B. Steill, Paternoster-row.

AN excellent arrangement and much varied illustration pervades this elementary work.

A Word on behalf of the Slave; or, a Mite cast into the Treasury of Love. London: Gilpin, Paternoster-row.

PURE in feeling and most benevolent in purpose.

A Bowl of Punch. By ALBERT SMITH. London: D. Bogue, Fleet-street.

AN encyclopædia of jokes; some good, some indifferent, some the utter riff-raff of comedy. Like most of the author's productions, some parcels are real wares, others mere dummies.

A brief Memoir of Miss S. Saunders, with nine Letters addressed to her during her last illness. By J. FOSTER. Tract Society.

THE intelligent piety for which this very small volume is remarkable, renders it an important publication for a special class; viz.—young people emerging from childhood into thought and action.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The Church in Earnest. By JOHN ANGELL JAMES.—Memoir of Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, bart. By his son, C. BUXTON, Esq.—Recollections of Northern India. By Rev. W. BUYERS.—Science and Scripture: their consistency and harmony maintained. By C. J. KENNEDY.—The Critical French Pronouncing Vocabulary. By M. DE LA VOYE.—The Hamersmith Protestant Discussion between Rev. John Cumming, D.D., and D. French, Esq.—The Church and the Pastor.—Adam's Guide to the Watling Places of England.—The Baptismal Reconciliation. By Rev. C. STOVEL.—First Books in Science: Chemistry; Bridge's Algebra; English Composition.—A Descriptive Atlas of Astronomy. By Rev. Thomas Milner, M.A.—Chalmers' Daily Scripture Readings. Vol. 3.—Large and Small Farms.—Dick's Philosophy of a Future State.—Five Tracts on the State Church.—Reflections on the French Revolution of 1848. A Discourse, by Rev. J. KENNEDY.—Evenings Improved; or, Precepts and Practice.—Posthumous Works of Rev. John Ely. With Memoir, by Dr. HAMILTON.—The Female Poets of Great Britain. By FREDERIC ROWTON.—A Dictionary of the Gospel. By Rev. S. DUNN.—The Philo-ophical Tendency of the Age. By J. D. MOV-LL, A.M.—The Church and Court of Rome. Vol. 2.—The Young Man's Guide against Infidelity. By Rev. G. MITCHELL, M.A.—France and England. A Vision of the Future. By M. LAMARTINE.—The Flirt. By ALBERT SMITH.—The Use of Difficulties in Mental and Moral Culture. By Rev. T. STRATTEN.—Selections from the Works of British Reformers. Nos. 1 and 2.—Banks' History of the Popes. Vols. 1 and 2.

LITERARY MISCELLANY.

THE REFORM LEADERS OF 1831.—The following graphic description is taken from the "Memoirs of Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, Bart.," just published. It is to be found in a letter of his father-in-law, Mr. J. J. Gurney, who gives a narrative of a famous dinner at Buxton's brewery, in June 1831, the guests at which were the principal members of the new Whig Government. The entertainment was beef-steaks, "cooked in one of the furnaces;" and the clown to the entertainment, "in a shabby black coat and very old hat," was Brougham, of course.

The Premier, grave and thoughtful as he seemed, did great justice to our dinner. "Milord Grey," cried the Spanish General Alava to him, as he was availing himself of a fresh supply of beefsteaks (pronounced by the Lord Chancellor to be "perfect")—"Milord Grey, vous êtes à votre sisième."

The contrast between Lord Grey and Alava was curious. The former, the dignified, stiff, sedate British nobleman of the old school; the latter, the entertaining, entertained, and voluble foreigner. He had been the faithful companion of the Duke of Wellington through most of his campaigns, and now had displayed his usual energy by coming up all the way from Walmer Castle, near Dover, in order to help in devouring the product of the stoke-hole in Spitalfields.

The Lord Chancellor was in high glee: he came in a shabby black coat, and very old hat; strangely different from the starred, gartered, and cocked-hat dignity of the venerable Premier. . . . It was my agreeable lot to sit between Lord Grey and Dr. Lushington, and the latter being occupied by his friend on the other side, I was left to converse with the Premier, which I had the pleasure of doing for nearly two hours. . . . We talked of his long political course, and Lord Shaftesbury, who sat next to him, on the other side, complimented him on the subject.

Lord Grey: "I came into Parliament for Northumberland when I was two-and-twenty, and I have been forty-five years a senator." Of course it was easy to draw the inference that he was sixty-seven years of age. On my expressing the interest I felt for him, and even sympathy, under the burthen he was bearing, he replied, "I am much too old for it. I would have refused the undertaking, if I could have done so consistently with my duty."

Our next subject was Parliamentary eloquence. I asked him who, amidst the vast variety of orators whom he had been accustomed to hear, appeared to him to be the best speaker and most able debater.

Lord Grey: "Beyond all doubt and comparison, Fox. His eloquence was irresistible. It came from his heart, and produced a corresponding effect on the hearts of his hearers."

I asked his opinion of Sheridan. The answer was, "He was very able, but could not speak without preparation."

I ventured to insinuate that there was no part of a Premier's office more responsible than that of making bishops.

He assented, adding, "You know I have had none to make at present." We talked of the Bishop of Norwich. Lord Grey expressed his admiration of his conduct and character, though he only knew him in his public capacity. "I fear the bishop is too old to accept any offer that I can make him, but I assure you that the very first and best thing that I have to give away shall be at his service."

This declaration has since been fully verified, by his offering to the bishop the see of Dublin, which the latter, as had been anticipated, refused; observing, in the words of old Erasmus to the Emperor of Austria, that dignity conferred upon him would be like a burden laid on a falling horse: "Sarcina equo collabenti imposita."

When the dinner was ended, I quitted my post by Lord Grey, and joined Buxton, Lord Brougham, and the Duke of Richmond, at the top of the table. Buxton was telling a story on the subject of reform (the only way in which that subject could be mentioned, as the dinner was not political, and Tories were present). "A stage-coachman," said he, "was driving a pair of sorry horses, the other day, from London to Greenwich. One of them stumbled, and nearly fell. 'Get up, you borough-mongering rascal, you!' said the coachman to the poor beast, as he laid the whip across his back." The Chancellor laughed heartily at this story. "How like my Lord — there was the old horse!" said he to me, laughing, and putting his hands before his face—Lord — sitting opposite to us."

Buxton now left us to talk with Lord Grey, whom he very much delighted by praising Lord Howick's speech upon slavery. It was a speech which deserved praise for its honesty and feeling, as well as for its talent. But the old Premier seemed to think that his son had been carried by his zeal rather too far.

Something led us (Lord Brougham and myself) to talk about Paley, and I mentioned the story of his having, on his death-bed, condemned his "Moral Philosophy," and declared his preference of the "Horse Pauline" above all his other works. This led Brougham to speak of both those works. "Did you ever hear that King George III. was requested by Mr. Pitt to make Paley a bishop? The King refused; and taking down the 'Moral Philosophy' from the shelf, he showed Pitt the passage in which he justifies subscription to articles not fully credited, on the ground of expediency. 'This,' said the King, 'is my reason for not making him a bishop.'" Lord Grey overheard the Chancellor's story, and confirmed it; "but," added the Chancellor, "I believe the true reason why George III. refused to make Paley a bishop was, that he had compared the divine right of kings to the divine right of constables!" . . . The Chancellor was very cordial, and we were all delighted with his entertaining rapidity of thought, ready wit, and evident good feeling. Nor was it possible to be otherwise than pleased with all our guests, with whom we parted, about eleven o'clock at night, after a flowing, exhilarating, and not altogether unenstructive, day.

INCONVENIENCES OF RANK.—At the beginning of the [first] French revolution, a marquis, being about to quit Paris for a tour, was required at the barriers to give his name. "I am Monsieur le Marquis de Saint Cyr." "Oh, oh, we have no monsieurs now." "Put me down as the Marquis de Saint Cyr, then." "All titles of nobility are abolished." "Call me De Saint Cyr only." "No person is allowed to have 'de' before his name in these days of equality." "Write Saint Cyr." "That won't do either; all the saints are struck out of the calendar." "Then let my name be Cyr." "Sire!! (Cyr is thus pronounced) —that is worse than all; sires, thank God, are quite done away with." And thus was each glittering particle taken from his title (like the embroidery from Peter's coat in the "Tale of a Tub"), and the worthy marquis detained in Paris for want of a good, homespun travelling name.—*Book of Table Talk.*

A DESOLATE REGION.—Imagine an immense extent of country, many hundred miles broad, and many hundred miles long, covered with dense forests, expanded lakes, broad rivers, and mighty mountains; and all in a state of primeval simplicity—undefaced by the axe of civilized man, and untenanted by aught save a few roving hordes of red Indians, and myriads of wild animals. Imagine, amid this wilderness, a number of small squares, each enclosing half-a-dozen wooden houses and about a dozen men, and, between each of these establishments, a space of forest varying from fifty to three hundred miles in length, and you will have a pretty correct idea of the Hudson Bay Company's territories, and of the number of, and distance between, their forts. The idea, however, may be still more correctly obtained, by imagining populous Great Britain converted into a wilderness and planted in the middle of Rupert's Land; the company, in that case, would build three forts in it, one at the Land's End, one in Wales, and one in the Highlands; so that in Britain there would be but three hamlets, with a population of some thirty men, half-a-dozen women, and a few children! The company's posts extend, with these intervals between, from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, and from within the Arctic Circle to the northern boundaries of the United States. Throughout this immense country there are probably not more ladies than would suffice to form half-a-dozen quadrilles; and these, poor banished creatures! are chiefly the wives of the principal gentlemen connected with the fur trade. The rest of the female population consist chiefly of half-breeds and Indians; the latter entirely devoid of education, and the former as much enlightened as can be expected from those whose life is spent in such a country. Even these are not very numerous, and yet, without them, the men would be in a sad condition, for they are the only tailors and washerwomen in the country, and make all the mittens, moccasins, fur caps, deer-skin coats, &c. &c., worn in the land.—*Every-Day Life in the Wilds of North America.*

GLEANINGS.

The *Principality* mentions the formation of a League of Universal Sisterhood in Cardiff. There was a numerous attendance of the fair sex and great enthusiasm.

The *Eastern Counties Herald* states that during the past week, a Roman vault was discovered, in fine preservation, in an excavation near to Mr. Close's residence, without the city walls, York.

Amongst the novelties of the season, is advertised a pleasure voyage to the eastern hemisphere, including India, China, Borneo, Australia, and New Zealand! We suppose the North Pole will be next.

We find the following "striking description" of Henry Clay, in the *Knickerbocker Magazine*. It is needless to say it is by a Western man:—"He is a man, and no mistake! Nature made him with her sleeves rolled up."

The editor of the *Liverpool Mail* compares the cheap newspaper movement to the game of beggar-my-neighbour.

THE NEW FRENCH COINAGE.—The mint is now coining one-centime pieces. They, as well as the pieces of five-francs, are coined from the dies of Dupré, the engraver of the first republic. They are in copper, having the head of a female, with a Phrygian bonnet, with the motto, "République Française;" on the reverse is, "Un Centime, 1848." They are about to coin half a million in value.

ST. KILDA.—The distance of St. Kilda from land has often led the inhabitants into strange mistakes. For nearly six months, at one time, they religiously observed Monday as Sabbath, and only rectified their error by going to Harris to ascertain the real state of the matter; while prayer was regularly and devoutly offered up for King William a year after his decease.—*Ross-shire Advertiser.*

A GOOD DESCRIPTION OF A BAD ROAD.—"Stranger, which is the road to—village?" "There's two roads," responded the fellow. "Well, which is the best?" "Ain't much difference; both on 'em very bad. Take which you will, afore you've got half way, you'll wish you'd tuck t'other."

The Madrid correspondent of the *Daily News* mentions machinations going on in the south of France for the restoration of the Orleans family.

ALL THE DIFFERENCE.—Mr. Pollock: Speak up, Sir. Witness: Oi thinks oi speaks up enough. Baron Alderson: You don't speak so loud as the learned counsel. Witness: Noa, it's not loikly; oi's not used to it; it's his trade.

The *Journal des Villes et des Campagnes* says:—"Louis Philippe owed everywhere. He paid as little as he could. His tradesmen were constantly applying to him for payment. He owed his fruiterers 95,000 francs, and his baker at Neuilly 25,000 francs. No man possessed in a higher degree the mania of heaping provisions, purchasing without measure, and generally without choice."

The *Gateshead Observer* states that a young gentleman living in London—or rather existing in London and living in the North—comes down to the Tyne by steam every Saturday to visit his "ladye love," and returns to town in time for business on Monday.

"Once," remarks the *Boston Chronotype*, "it was compulsory on a man in this Commonwealth to pay a tax for the support of some sort of preaching. The law was repealed—in spite of an awful fuss—and the clergy are supported better than before."

FATAL EXPERIMENTS WITH CHLOROFORM.—The *New York True Sun* states that a young lady, daughter of Mr. Macdonald, of that city, recently met with her death from the use of chloroform. The preparation was used to allay the toothache, and the patient was afterwards supposed to be dead. This death, however, was only apparent, for on opening her coffin a week or two afterwards, the unfortunate girl was found to have turned round upon her face, and in her agony and desperation had actually bitten off two of her fingers on recovering from her temporary death by chloroform!

MAXIMS.—He is really lost who has lost the sense of shame.—Business is as much the proper relief to relaxation and pleasure, as pleasure and relaxation are to business.—The injuries we do and those we suffer are seldom weighed in the same balance.—Shun the company of those who think blasphemy is wit, and cannot be amused without impiety.—Has one served thee? Tell it to many. Hast thou served many? Tell it not to any.—Good nature, like a bee, collects its honey from every herb. Ill nature, like a spider, sucks poison from the sweetest flower.

THE DUCHESS OF ORLEANS.—We read in the *Messenger*:—"A lady of Geneva, who is a friend of the Duchess of Orleans, received a few days ago, from the Duchess, a letter which contains, among other things, the following words:—'I deplored at first the unexpected revolution of February, and wept over the terrible fall of those who were dear to me. I regretted at first for my son the loss of the finest crown in the world; but now I had rather see my son dead than hope for him an early return to France, or dream that he might one day sit upon a throne, which is for ever impossible.'"

HAIRDRESSING AND PSALMODY, DRESSMAKING AND SCHOOL TEACHING.—The current number of a religious periodical publishes on its wrapper the following advertisement:—"Lady's-Maid and Schoolmistress.—Wanted, in a clergyman's family, a lady's maid, who understands dressmaking and hairdressing, and who would be capable of taking charge of a small village school. A knowledge of psalmody and of the national system required. Salary, £20 per annum, with board and lodging at the rector's house."—The clerical advertiser is as economical as the poor-law guardians of Worcester, who coveted a tailor and schoolmaster in one and the same genius.

BELGIAN FASHIONS.—A fête in honour of the fashions of the coming season has been held in Brussels. The *beau monde*, assembled in Brussels from all countries, have conceived the idea of transplanting to that city the Parisian Longchamps, at which the fashions for the season are decided upon, and for which Paris, in its present situation, is not a very proper place. The *haute volée* in Brussels, the English residents, and other fashionable foreigners, have made preparations on a great scale for the solemnity. New fashions for gentlemen and ladies are, it is said, to appear in this exhibition; new coaches, horses, harnesses, and liveries have been made ready. The *corso* will take place in the beautiful promenade of the Allée Verte. The state carriages will also appear.

BIRTHS.

April 15, the wife of the Rev. T. MORRIS, Wallingborough, of a daughter.

April 24, the wife of the Rev. SAMUEL HILLIARD, f Bedford, Warwickshire, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

April 24, at the Baptist Chapel, Ridgmount, Beds, by the Rev. J. H. Brooks, Mr. THOMAS MILLARD to Miss ANN WHINNETT, only daughter of Mrs. SMITH, at the Falcon Inn, all of Eversholt, Beds.

April 25, at Marshall-street Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. Richard Winter Hamilton, LL.D., D.D., the Rev. JAMES HUGHES MORGAN, minister of the above chapel, to SARAH, eldest daughter of E. BRIGGS, Esq., Green Terrace-house, Hunslet, near Leeds.

April 26, at the Congregational Chapel, Henley-on-Thames, by the Rev. J. Rowland, Mr. W. BYLES, Bradford, Yorkshire, to Miss BRANGWIN, Henley.

April 27, at the Independent Chapel, Farnham, by the Rev. G. Clayton, of London, the Rev. JOHN CORBIN, of Derby, to MARGARET, second daughter of the late Rev. J. JOHNSON, of Farnham.

April 27, at the Independent Chapel, Farnham, by the Rev. G. Clayton, of London, EBERNESS, second son of J. VINNY, Esq., of Camberwell-terrace, to LOUISA, youngest daughter of the late Rev. J. JOHNSON, of Farnham.

April 27, at the Tabernacle Chapel, Hanley, by the Rev. J. Fletcher, Mr. WILLIAM DUGGORY, of Shelton, to Mrs. NANCY KEY, of Broom-street, Hanley.

April 27, at the Tabernacle Chapel, Hanley, by the Rev. J. Fletcher, Mr. JOHN ROWLEY, of Hanley, to Miss ABIGAIL MANSFIELD, of Shelton.

April 27, at the Parish Church, Bradford, Yorkshire, by the Rev. J. Burnet, LL.D., Vicar, WILLIAM TAYLOR, Esq., M.D., eldest son of W. Taylor, Esq., of Humberstone-lodge, Leicester, to ANNE ELIZABETH, only surviving daughter of the late G. MORSEMAN, Esq., M.D., of Bradford.

April 27, at the Baptist Chapel, Downton, by the Rev. J. T. Collier, Mr. LOUIS D'ELBOY, of H.M. Hon. Board of Ordnance, to MATILDA, second daughter of the late Mr. JOHN CLARE, of Downton.

DEATHS.

April 20, at Grimmer, near Minsterly, Salop, aged 58, Mrs. MARY MORRIS, mother of the Rev. T. Rowson, of Sandwich, Kent. Her protracted illness was borne with Christian patience, resignation, and fortitude. Her end was eminently peaceful and happy.

April 22, aged 68, Mr. JAMES SKERRITT, of Royal Hospital-row, Chelsea.

April 23, of dysentery, aged 31 years, WILLIAM SAUNDERS MEREDITH, Esq., third son of John Meredith, Esq., Lambeth-road, and late of the diplomatic department, Hong Kong, China.

April 25, at Kennington-green, the residence of her father, aged 30, Mrs. EDWARD HALL, eldest daughter of William Barth, Esq., President of the Money Order-office, London, and formerly of Great Yarmouth.

April 25, at Upper Clapton, in his 68th year, Mr. PHILIP SKEWIN, sen., builder, &c., much respected by all who knew him.

April 26, at Stony Stratford, MARY, the affectionate and beloved wife of the Rev. J. ASHBY, late of Thetford, Norfolk.

April 28, at Welton-house, Yorkshire, aged 76, ANNE, widow of the late R. HARRIS, Esq.

April 29, aged 8, SAMUEL RAYN, son of the Rev. J. RAYN, of Dudley, Worcestershire.

May 1, of bronchitis, after a short but severe attack, in her 49th year, MARY, the beloved wife of SAMUEL CASTLEDEN, of Mile End, and daughter of the late John Hebditch, of Limehouse, deservedly esteemed and regretted by a large circle of friends.

GALVANISM.—[Advertisement.]—The following is extracted from the *Court Journal* of Jan. 29:—"It is now about four years since that we informed our readers, it was to be regretted galvanism was not more extensively used as a remedial agent. We have every reason to believe that our advice was attended to, for, in a comparatively short time, Mr. Halse's residence was crowded with the *élite* of fashion, and their less fortunate fellow-sufferers; and we feel confident, judging from the astonishing remedial effects it has produced on ourselves, after all kinds of medicines and hydropathy had failed to impart any benefit, that the public will thank us for our recommendation. We were delighted to notice, a short time since, that Mr. Halse was patronised by the Lord Bishop of London and Sir Charles Clark, his lordship's physician. Mr. Halse's great reforms in the galvanic apparatus, and his improved methods of application, justly entitle him to rank as the head of his profession. We again recommend our readers to give galvanism a fair trial. Mr. Halse's residence is at 23, Brunswick-square, London."

MONEY MARKET AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Funds have fluctuated considerably during the week under the influence of the various accounts from the Continent. The extreme variation in Consols has been under 1 per cent. during the past week. Bank Stock has been rising, because of the probable advantage which the corporation will derive from getting more of its paper into circulation. Exchequer Bills have been buoyant.

Money is plentiful. The leading discount houses have issued a circular reducing the rate allowed for money at 2½ per cent.—a melancholy evidence of the stagnation of business, and of the consequent scarcity of good commercial paper.

The exportation of the precious metals continues. The amount of silver in bars and coin exported from London during the week to Thursday last was 152,225 oz.; of gold 6,657 oz. and £100, besides 2,860 oz. silver in specie, and 1,400 oz. in bullion, to Rotterdam, and £1,960 to Havre. Holland, Belgium, and France have taken the whole amount.

Investments in railways are increasing but slowly, although there is less desire to sell. The fluctuation in shares during the past week has not been important.

The business done in the past week in the produce markets has been rather larger, but the chief point gained is a better tone generally among buyers. Sugar and rice have advanced, and other articles are mostly very firm. The deliveries are large, but the arrivals keep pace with them. There was a slight improvement in the tone of the letters received on Saturday from the manufacturing districts, and at Liverpool the trade and exporters have purchased cotton more freely.

The Provisional Government of Lombardy have published a new tariff, greatly relaxing the restrictive system, and paving the way to the recognition of free trade.

Messrs. Cotterworth, Power, and Pryor, whose suspension took place last December, are enabled to pay 20s. in the pound, and retain a surplus of thirty thousand pounds. The firm will resume business, Mr. Pryor retiring.

The accounts of the Bank of England for the week to the 22nd ult. exhibit still further the effect of the want of confidence excited abroad and in Ireland. The amount of notes issued was £26,621,920, a decrease of £513,550; the notes unemployed amounted to £7,860,055, a reduction of £708,875; the active circulation was £15,761,865, an increase of £165,325; the bullion amounted to £13,228,341, a decrease of £535,913. From the apparent cessation to some extent, in Ireland, of the run upon the savings banks, and the lower value of gold upon the Continent, it is inferred that the exports of bullion will fall off from this time. Already the rates of the foreign exchanges are receding to a point nearer the legitimate range, and notwithstanding the caution in purchasing bills, there seems to be less mistrust than there was a week or two since, when it was almost impossible to negotiate excellent paper.

THE GAZETTE.

Friday, April 28.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnizing marriages, pursuant to an act of the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 85:—

St. Mary's Chapel, Hanley Castle, Worcestershire.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

ATKINSON, WILLIAM, Colne and Manchester, cotton manufacturer.

HARBER, BENJAMIN, Nottingham, dealer in lace.

GOODALL, WILLIAM, and BATES, BENJAMIN HOPKINSON, Skircoat, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturers.

BANKRUPTCY SUPPLEMENTED.

GRIFFITH, FRANCIS, and GRIFFITH, CHARLES, Southampton-row, Bloomsbury, linen drapers.

BANKRUPTS.

ATWOOD, GEORGE WASHINGTON, America-square, London, merchant, May 2, June 16: solicitors, Messrs. Marten, Thomas, and Hollans, 31, Commercial Sale-rooms, Mincing-lane.

ARMON, FRANCIS, Carlton-hill, St. John's-wood, builder, May 18, June 5: solicitors, Messrs. Venderoom and Co., Bush-lane.

BISHOP, JOHN, Tredgar, linen draper, May 15, June 12: solicitor, Mr. Jones, Six-lane.

CLARKE, JOSEPH, Hinckley, hosier, May 11, June 15: solicitors, Mr. E. K. Jarvis, Hinckley; and Mr. W. H. Reece, Birmingham.

COCKER, FULLER, Shipham, timber dealer, May 10, June 6: solicitors, Messrs. Treherm and White, 13, Barge-yard-chambers, Bucklesbury; and Mr. M. W. Massey, Watton.

DOBSON, JAMES STUART, Harlow, Essex, surgeon, May 16, June 6: solicitors, Messrs. Parker, Taylor, and Rooke, 2, Raymond's-buildings, Gray's-inn.

FOSTER, JAMES, 18, Wilson-street, Finsbury, fringe manufacturer, May 9, June 3: solicitors, Messrs. Reed, Langford, and Marsden, Friday-street, Cheapside.

GREENBANK, THOMAS KING, Manchester, tobacconist, May 9, June 6: Messrs. Wathen and Phillips, 18A, Basinghall-street; and Mr. C. De Lara, Manchester.

HOOVER, JOHN WESLEY, late of Holmes-terrace, Kentish-town, and Holloway-road, Islington, stone mason, May 9, June 16: solicitors, Mr. English, 45, Coleman-street.

MULVEY, THOMAS SMITH, Chester, ship builder, May 16, June 6: solicitors, Messrs. Chester and Co., Staple-inn; and Mr. Tyler, Liverpool.

PACH, HENRY, 45, St. John-square, Clerkenwell, and of Loughton, Essex, watch manufacturer, May 5, June 9: solicitors, Messrs. J. T. and H. Baddeley, 13, Leman-street, Goodman-fields.

PASCO, THOMAS, Chichester, upholsterer, May 9, June 5: solicitors, Messrs. Staniland and Long, Bowyer-street, Strand.

PUGH, JAMES, Monmouth, tailor, May 11, June 8: solicitor, Mr. Clarke, Bristol.

SPINKS, BENJAMIN, Lichfield-street, 8-10, timber merchant, May 5, June 9: solicitor, Mr. W. Williams, 31, Alfred-place, Bedford-square.

SWAN, JOHN BABBS, Brentwood, Essex, innkeeper, May 12, June 10: solicitor, Mr. B. Rawlings, Romford, Essex.

WORKMAN, MOSES, Upton-upon-Severn, brazier, May 17, June 3: solicitors, Mr. M. M. B. Cooper, Upton-upon-Severn; and Messrs. Motteram, Knight, and Emmet, Birmingham.

YEATES, BENJAMIN, Monmouth, draper, May 12, June 15: solicitors, Mr. T. Crosby, Bristol; and Mr. C. Jay, 15, Serjeant's-inn, Fleet-street, London.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BOCKETT, THOMAS, Glasgow, merchant, May 8 and 31.

BOWSTEAD, THOMAS, Glasgow, grocer, May 3 and 24.

WADDELL, THOMAS, Glasgow, merchant, May 4 and 25.

DIVIDENDS.

William Chappelow, Jun., 107, Jermyn-street, St. James's, wholesale saddler, second div. of 1s. 8d.; at 2, Abchurch-lane, May 2, and two subsequent Mondays—Isaac Fellman, 6, Fore-street, Limehouse, brewer, third div. of 6d.; at 12, Abchurch-lane, May 2, and two subsequent Mondays—John Clarke, 6, Great Castle-street, Regent-street, painter, second div. of 1s. 6d.; at 12, Birch-lane, May 2, and two subsequent Mondays—William Douglas and John More Douglas, Liverpool, merchants, a div. of 9d.; at 53, South John-street, May 4, and any subsequent Thursday—William Gregory, Liverpool, hosier, first div. of 3s. 6d.; at 53, South John-street, any Thursday—William Edmond and Thomas Edmond, Liverpool, merchants, second div. of 3s.; at 72, Great George-street, May 2, and any subsequent Tuesday—Thomas Cartwright, Heaton Norris, Lancashire, final div. of 4½d.; at 7, Charlotte-street, Manchester, May 2, and any subsequent Tuesday—Benjamin Walton, Wolverhampton, japanner, first div. of 5s. 8d.; at 7, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, May 5, and any subsequent Friday.

Tuesday, May 3.

BANKRUPTS.

BRANLANDS, RICHARD, Halifax, innkeeper, May 12, June 30: solicitors, Messrs. Williamson and Co., Gray's-inn; Messrs. Norris and Norris, Halifax; and Messrs. Horsfall and Harrison, Leeds.

BERRY, SAMUEL, Barnstaple, Devonshire, grocer, May 18, June 8: solicitors, Messrs. Pearson and Gosling, Gray's-inn-square; and Mr. Perkins, Bristol.

BERTHAM, HENRY, Elizabeth-street, Pimlico, wine merchant, May 12, June 10: solicitor, Mr. Robinson, Half Moon-street, Piccadilly.

FLOYD, WILLIAM, Tavistock, Devonshire, victualler, May 18, June 8: solicitors, Messrs. Keddl, Baker, and Grant, Lime-street; and Mr. Stogdon, Exeter.

HALL, EDWARD, Manchester, packer and maker-up, and Ashton-under-Lyne, innkeeper, May 16, June 6: solicitors, Messrs. Rickards and Walker, Lincoln's-inn-fields; and Mr. Buckley, Ashton-under-Lyne.

HALLPIKE, VINCENT HENRY, Cromer-street, Gray's-inn-road, pianoforte maker, May 9, June 16: solicitor, Mr. Lewis, New-inn, Strand.

HEADLAND, ELIZABETH MARY, Harley-street, Cavendish-square, lodging-housekeeper, May 12, June 10: solicitors, Messrs. Burrell and Co., White Hart-court, Lombard-street.

JEFFERY, JOHN DACEY, Sidmouth, Devonshire, apothecary, May 18, June 8: solicitors, Messrs. Clowes, Wedlake, and Clowes, King's Bench-walk, Temple; and Mr. Laidman, Exeter.

JEWESSON, RICHARD, Great Winchester-street, merchant, May 9, June 16: solicitor, Mr. Peddie, Cheapside.

KEYMER, JAMES, Lawrence-lane, Cheapside, warehouseman, May 12, June 19: solicitor, Mr. Brisley, Pancras-lane, Cheapside.

M'HARDY, DANIEL, Almondbury, Yorkshire, innkeeper, May 12, June 30: solicitors, Messrs. Bowden and Co., Aldermanbury; Messrs. Sykes, Milnesbridge, and Hellawell, Huddersfield; and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.

PLUCKROSE, EDWARD JOSEPH, Kingsland-road, tea-dealer, May 16, June 20: solicitors, Messrs. Baylis and Drewe, Redcross-street, Cripplegate.

POTTER, WILLIAM, Birkenhead, Cheshire, and Liverpool, merchant, May 16, June 7: solicitors, Messrs. Sharpe and Co., Bedford-row; and Messrs. Lowndes and Co., Liverpool.

SMITH, THOMAS GEORGE, Adam's-court, Old Broad-street, stockbroker, May 11, June 8: solicitor, Mr. Chilcote, George-street, Mansion-house.

SMITH, THOMAS, Portsea and Birmingham, licensed hawker, May 12, June 19: solicitor, Mr. Taylor, Pavement, Finsbury.

WARD, WILLIAM WEBB, Stafford, metal dealer, May 16, June 20: solicitor, Mr. Bowen, Stafford.

WOOLSTON, ROBERT, Stamford, Lincolnshire, brickmaker, May 12, June 16: solicitors, Mr. French, Stamford; and Mr. Bowley, Nottingham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

FRASER, J., Inverness, founder, May 8 and 29.

HENDERSON, D., Old Monkland, Lanarkshire, smith, May 8 and 29.

MOFFAT, A., Glasgow, carter, May 8 and 29.

DIVIDENDS.

P. J. Antill, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, wine merchant, first div. of 1s. 6d.; at Mr. Baker's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on Saturday, May 6, or any subsequent Saturday—G. J., and T. Procter, Rochdale, cotton-spinners, first div. of 6s. 6d.; at Mr. Fraser's, Manchester, on Tuesday, May 16, or any subsequent Tuesday—T. Law, Manchester and Salford, corn-dealer, first div. of 2s. 1½d.; at Mr. Fraser's, Manchester, on Tuesday, May 16, or any subsequent Tuesday—J. Robinson, Almondbury, Yorkshire, dyer, first div. of 3d.; at Mr. Hope's, Leeds, on Tuesday, May 2, or any subsequent Tuesday—W. Bottomley, Almondbury, Yorkshire, millwright, first and final div. of 2s.; at Mr. Hope's, Leeds, on Tuesday, May 2, or any subsequent Tuesday—C. Davies, Liverpool, stationer, first div. of 1s. 6d.; at Mr. Morgan's, Liverpool, on Wednesday, May 10, or any subsequent Wednesday—J. Hughes, Toxteth-park, near Liverpool, builder, first div. of 2s. 3d.; at Mr. Morgan's, Liverpool, on Wednesday, May 10, or any subsequent Wednesday—Bate, Brothers, and Helling, Rugeley, Staffordshire, brewers, first div. of 20s. and interest thereon from the date of the fiat, on the separate estate of F. Bate; at Mr. Valpy's, Birmingham, any Thursday.

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, May 1.

We had but a moderate supply of English Wheat to-day, but the arrivals of Foreign have been considerable since this day's night. The weather since Friday has been more settled, and this morning, being fine, the Wheat trade was heavy, but the best qualities of both English and Foreign held fully last Monday's prices. In Flour there was not so much doing, but sellers were firm. Barley and fine Malts sold quite as dear. Beans and Peas maintained their prices. Good Oats met a fair demand at last week's quotations. In Tares nothing doing. Linseed Cakes dull and cheaper. We had very few buyers of Cloverseeds, though offered at low prices. The current prices are as under.

Wheat, Red.....	40 to 46	Peas, Hogg.....	33 to 35
Fine	49 to 51	Maple.....	— to —
White	43 to 51	Boilers.....	33 to 36
Fine	55 to 57	Beans, Ticks.....	31 to 33
Flour, per sk. (Town) 40 ..	43	Pigeon	— to —
Barley	28 to 35	Harrow	34 to 37
Malt,	32 to 33	Oats, Feed.....	17 to 20
Malt, Ordinary	54 to 56	Fine	22 to 25
Pale	56 to 58	Poland	20 to 21
Bye	32 to 34	Potato	20 to 23

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR APRIL 28.		AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.	
Wheat	45s. 10d.	Wheat	50s. 7d.
Barley	33 1	Barley	31 6
Oats	19 8	Oats	20 0
Rye	29 7	Rye	29 5
Beans	35 3	Beans	35 6
Peas	38 2	Peas	37 11

DUTIES.

Wheat	7 0	Rye	2 0
Barley	2 0	Beans	2 0
Oats	2 6	Peas	2 0

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, May 1.

Although the dead markets were by no means largely supplied, and the attendance of buyers was good, the Beef trade was in a very depressed state, at a decline in the quotations paid on Monday last of from 2d. to, in some instances, 4d. per 8lbs. The general top figures for Beef ruled from 4s. to 4s. 2d. per 8lbs.; but a few of the prime Scots realised 4s. 4d. For the time of year, the supply of Sheep was again small, but of excellent quality. All breeds of Sheep commanded a ready sale, at a rise on last week's current prices of 2d. per 8lbs.; prime old Downs in the wool producing 5s. 8d. The numbers of Lambs were again moderate, while the demand for them ruled steady, at 2d. per 8lbs. more money. From the Isle of Wight 70 head came to hand. Calves were in good supply, and although request, at last week's prices. In Pigs very little business was transacted, yet their quotations were mostly supported.

Price per stone of 14lbs. (sinking the offal).
Beef 3s. 0d. to 4s. 4d. | Veal | 4s. 0d. to 5s. 0d. || Mutton | 4 2 to 5 4 | Pork | 4 0 to 5 0 |
| Lambs | 5s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. | | |

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts.	Sheep & Lambs.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday	1,030	7,640	338
Monday	3,284	16,980	166

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, May 1.

Per 14lbs. by the carcass.		Per 14lbs. by the carcass.	
Inferior Beef 2s. 10d. to 3s. 0d.	Inf. Mutton 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.	Mid. ditto ..	3 10 to 4
Widdling do 3 0 to 3 2	Prime ditto ..	4 6 to 4 8	
Primelarge 3 2 to 3 4	Veal	4 0 to 5 0	
Prime small 3 6 to 3 8	Small Pork ..	4 8 to 5 0	
Large Pork 3 10 to 4 6	Lambs	5s. 8d. to 6s. 6d.	

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday.—Some business has recently been done in foreign Cloverseed at speculative prices to hold over, but the transactions in English have been of very little moment. In other Seeds nothing of interest has occurred.

FOREIGN SEEDS, &c.

Clover, red (duty 5s. per cwt.), per cwt.	33s. to 40s.
Ditto, white (duty 5s. per cwt.), per cwt.	33s. to 40s.
Linseed (per qr.)	Baltic, 42s. to 46s.; Odessa, 42s. to 46s.
Linseed Cake (per ton)	£8 to £9
Rape Cake (per ton)	£5 to £5 10s.
Caraway (per cwt.)	35s. to 37s.; new 37s. to 38s.
Coriander (per cwt.)	16s. to 20s.
Hempseed (per quarter)	35s. to 38s.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 7½d. to 8d.; of household ditto, 6d. to 7d. per 4lbs. loaf.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.

The stock of old Irish Butter in first hands is now exhausted, and the season may be regarded as closed. Some few firkins of Limerick have arrived, and sold at 100s., and fourth Cork at 90s. The next arrivals will sell promptly at full prices. Foreign is in good supply, and with free demand; prices rule from 80s. to 10½s., according to kind and quality.—Bacon.—The demand for singed sides has been of a limited character; prices well supported, with a tendency upwards. Bale and Tierce Middle, and Hams, in short supply, and saleable at full prices. Lard as last reported.

BUTTER, CHEESE, BACON, AND HAMS.

Butter, per cwt.	s.	d.	Cheese, per cwt.	s.	d.
Dorset	108	112	Double Gloucester ..	60	6
Carlton	94	..	Single	58	6
Sligo	81	..	Cheshire	56	7
Cork, 1st	88	94	Derby	62	6
Waterford	84	..	American	48	5
Limerick	86	..	Edam and Gouda ..	46	5
Foreign, prime—			Bacon, new	64	7
Friesland	106	..	Middle	46	6
Kiel	91	103	Hams, Irish	66	7
Fresh Butter, per doz.,			Westmoreland ..	78	..
12s. 6d. to 14s. 0d.			York	84	..

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday.—Our market has been somewhat firmer during the past week, and quotations for the better sorts of Hops have slightly advanced.

WOOL, CITY, Monday.—The imports of Wool into London last week were 2,656 bales—of which 1,127 were from South Australia, 948 from Van Diemen's Land, 225 from the Cape of Good Hope, 153 from Germany, and the rest from France, &c. The Wool market is quiet, as there are public sales declared to the extent of about 13,000 bales, and no doubt a good deal more will be ready next week. The sales commence on Thursday next.—Leeds, April 28.—Sales during the week have been very small, and the tendency of prices is downwards. The announcement of another series of Colonial Wool sales in London for the 4th May has rather tended to check sales during the past week. Prices continue about the same as during the last few weeks.

POTATOES, SOUTHWARK WATERSIDE, May 1.—The arrivals from Belgium, Hamburg, and Holland, the past week, have been extensive, which, with our usual supply coastwise, is quite equal to the demand, and prevents anything like a rise in prices, except in the very best Yorks, which, in some few cases, have made more money. The following are our present quotations:—

York Regents	140 to 180	Essex Regents	120 to 130
Do. Shaws	90 to 100	Do. Shaws	90 to 100
Wishbech Regents ..	90 to 130	Do. Kidneys	120 to 130
Do. Blues	80 to 85	Do. Blues	120 to 130
Scotch Cups	— to —	Belgian Whites ..	85 to 95
Do. Whites	— to —	Hamburg ditto ..	85 to 90
		Dutch Whites	85 to —

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET—FRIDAY.

	Bales.
Taken on speculation this year	14,705
" .. 1847	154,800
Stock in Liverpool the 31st December, 1847	368,530
" .. 1846	438,970
Forwarded unsold this year	5,560
Ditto, last year	15,500
Decrease of import this year as compared with last ..	10,796
Decrease in stock, as compared with last year	166,600
Quantity taken for consumption this year	395,800
" .. 1847, same period ..	316,400
Increase of quantity taken for consumption	79,400

SATURDAY.—To-day 5,000 bales of Cotton have been sold, 500 of which were taken for export. The market closed firm.

TALLOW, LONDON, Monday.—The late heavy imports of Tallow from Sydney and various parts of South America have had considerable influence upon our market. The demand is heavy, at 49s. 6d. to 49s. 3d. per cwt. for P.Y.C. on the spot. Rough Fat, 2s. 10d. per 8lbs.

HIDES, LEADENHALL.—Market hides, 56lb. to 64lb., 1½d. to 1½d. per lb.; ditto, 64lb. to 72lb., 2d. to 2½d.; ditto, 72lb. to 80lb., 2½d. to 3d.; ditto, 80lb. to 88lb., 3d. to 3½d.; ditto, 88lb. to 96lb., 3½d. to 4d.; ditto, 96lb. to 104lb., 4d. to 4½d.; Calf-skins, each, 4s. 6d. to 6s. 0d.; Horse hides, 8s. 6d. to 9s.; Polled Sheep, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; Kents and Half-breds, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; Downs, 2s. 9d. to 3s. 7d.; Lamb Skins, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.; Shearings, 4d. to 6d.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, April 29.—At per load of 36 trusses.
Meadow 60s. to 78s. | Clover 80s. to 97s.
Straw 27s. .. 30s.

COAL EXCHANGE, May 1.

Market heavy, in anticipation of a large arrival next day.
Lambton, 16s. 6d.; Caradox, 16s.; Hettens, 17s. 6d.; Riddles, 15s.; Wylams, 13s. 6d. Fresh arrivals, 63; left from last day, 9.

THE COLONIAL MARKETS—Tuesday Evening.

SUGAR.—692 hogheads (including 150 hogheads of Barbadoes at auction) have been sold at an advance of 6d. per cwt. The P. sales to-day went off with spirit, and 5,774 bags Mauritius, and 4,635 bags Bengal were chiefly disposed of at about 6d. advance, the former at 35s. to 40s. 6d. for low middling to very good grey and yellow, and the latter at 40s. to 42s. for middling to good white, and 38s. 6d. to 40s. for yellow and low middling; 1,700 bags Penang found buyers at rather advanced rates; low brown to middling yellow, 29s. to 30s. 6d.

COFFEE.—140 casks and barrels Jamaica sold slowly at about previous rates.

RICE.—2,000 bags Bengal brought 10s. to 10s. 6d. for middling pearly white.

SALTSTICK.—2,700 bags were taken in at 33s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. for 94 to 42 per cwt. refined, there being no buyers.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE "NONCONFORMIST" CIRCULATION FUND.

THE Committee have to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums since the last advertisement:—

	£	s.	d.
Rev. J. Smedmore, Leicester.....	1	0	0
Rev. Caleb Morris, London.....	1	0	0
Rev. F. Wills, Ramsgate.....	1	0	0
Committee-room, 4, Horse-shoe-court.			

Just published. Gratis! Gratis!

MARSHALL'S ANNUAL MAY MEETING GUIDE.—John Slater Marshall announces that his Annual May Meeting Guide and Directory to the Amusements of London is published, and may be had gratis; or, sent free, on receipt of a Postage Stamp.

Apply early to J. S. Marshall, 136, Fleet-street, 26 doors from Farringdon-street.

Just Published, 8vo, price 1s.

CONSCIENTIOUS CLERICAL NONCONFORMITY. With Introductory Remarks on the Imputed Conduct of the BISHOP of EXETER in the Cases of the Rev. J. SHORE and the Rev. G. C. GORHAM. By THOMAS BINNEY. [The "Introductory Remarks" may be had separately, price 6d.] London: JACKSON and WALFORD, 18, St. Paul's-churchyard; and WARD and Co., Paternoster-row.

FOR EVERY MEMBER IN THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CONNEXION.

Just Published, 48 pp., price One Shilling.

WESLEYAN METHODISM. By a WESLEYAN MINISTER.

Its present state and condition—Causes of decline—Means of recovery—Several important facts necessary to be borne in mind by every member of the Connexion.

An appeal to ministers, local preachers, class leaders, &c., with various interesting incidents connected with Wesleyan Methodism—A complete answer to the question—

HOW MAY WESLEYAN METHODISM BE RESTORED TO ITS FORMER STATE OF EFFICIENCY AND PROSPERITY?

Forwarded (post free) on receipt of fourteen postage stamps. The Trade supplied through the post at 8s. per dozen. Orders to be addressed to the "Herald" Office, 33, Bath-street, Jersey.

PARALYSIS.—Mr. HALSE, the Medical Galvanist, of No. 23, Brunswick-square, London, earnestly recommends Invalids and Gentlemen of the Medical Profession to peruse the following. It cannot but surprise them, and will prove to them the all but miraculous powers of Galvanism when applied in a scientific manner, and with an efficient apparatus.

The following case is perhaps as remarkable a one as could be selected, as showing the powers of Galvanism after every medicine and almost every medical practitioner in Devonshire had been tried in vain; and as the truth of it is witnessed by a distinguished clergyman of the Established Church, there can, one would suppose, be no doubt in any one's mind as to its accuracy. When the patient was brought to Mr. H., his wife told him that she could not believe that Galvanism or anything else could possibly restore him; for his complaint had been standing so long, and he was in such a weak state, that it would be presumptuous to expect any benefit, particularly as he had tried the most celebrated physicians in Devonshire, and still daily continued to get worse. She also stated that her friends blamed her very much for removing him from his home; but she could not help it—her husband had heard of such extraordinary cures made by Mr. H. in his complaint, that galvanized he would be in spite of everything. His medical man was quite angry with him for thinking of such a thing; and when his friends were carrying him from his house to the carriage, every one appeared to be convinced that they should never see him alive any more. But notwithstanding all the difficulties he had to contend with, he was determined, and insisted upon being galvanized. The following letter, which he sent to the editor of the *Exeter Flying Post*, will prove the result:—

"OUGHT NOT GALVANISM TO BE MORE GENERALLY RESORTED TO?—A Letter to the Editor of the *Flying Post*, by One who has derived Immense Benefit from the Powers of the Galvanic Apparatus.

"A. A. EDITOR.—A few weeks since, I noticed a paragraph by you, stating that Galvanism ought to be more generally employed. I beg to state that I am precisely of the same opinion, for I have witnessed its astonishing effects in a number of cases, and its power has been tried practically on myself, with the happiest results. In that paragraph, I was most happy to find favourable mention made of Mr. Halse's name. All that you have said of him, and even more, is his due; indeed, as for myself, I have cause to bless the day that I first placed myself under his care. Now, Sir, my case was a most deplorable one, for I had not the least use of either arm or leg—they hung about me like as if they did not belong to me, and the strength of my legs was insufficient to support the weight of my body; of course I could not stand, and if you had offered me a thousand guineas to move either hand but one inch from the place where it might have been placed, I could not have done it; not the least command had I over my limbs. My complaint was caused by a blow on the back. Well, as before stated, I placed myself under Mr. Halse's Galvanic treatment. I had been led to believe that it was a dreadful operation to go through; but I was agreeably surprised that there was no unpleasantness at all about it, nor even enough to make a child cry, so beautifully does Mr. Halse manage his battery. In three days, Sir, I could stand upon my legs, and in one week I could walk about the house; at the same time I partially recovered the use of my arms; and in six weeks I could walk several miles in a day, without the least assistance. Well might you ask, 'Ought not Galvanism to be more resorted to?' After what I have seen and experienced, I do consider it a shame that a portion of the medical profession should decline to recom-

mend their patients to try the powers of Galvanism. Perhaps I need not state that I had had the advice of the most celebrated physicians in this country; but all medicines which were tried did me little or no good. I believe Mr. Halse was as much surprised as myself and friend, when, at the expiration of a week, he saw that I could walk, for he did not leave me to believe that there would be such a rapid improvement. I will state that invalids are very much to blame if they do not give Galvanism a trial; for if it does no good, it is impossible it can do any harm; but there is every probability of its doing good, for during the time I was under Mr. Halse's care, I noticed its happy effects in a variety of cases, particularly Sciatica, Rheumatism, Asthma, and Nervousness; indeed all his patients were rapidly regaining their health. I only regret that I had not applied to him earlier; I should have been scores of pounds in pocket had I done so.

GEORGE E. BIGNELL,
"New London Inn, Dodbrooke, Kingsbridge."
"Witnesses to the truth of the above.—C. G. Owen, Rector of Dodbrooke, near Kingsbridge, Devon."

Mr. Halse recommends Paralytic Patients residing in the country to purchase one of his Ten Guinea Portable Apparatuses; as, with his instructions, they will be enabled to apply the Galvanism themselves, without the least pain, and fully as effective as he could at his own residence. Invalids are solicited to send to Mr. W. H. Halse, of 23, Brunswick-square, London, for his PAMPHLET ON MEDICAL GALVANISM, which will be forwarded free on receipt of two postage stamps. They will be astonished at its contents. In it will be found the particulars of cures in cases of Asthma, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Tic-douloureux, Paralysis, Spinal Complaints, Head-ache, Deficiency of Nervous Energy, Liver Complaints, General Debility, Indigestion, Stiff Joints, all sorts of Nervous Disorders, &c. Mr. Halse's method of applying the galvanic fluid is quite free from all unpleasant sensation; in fact, it is rather pleasurable than otherwise, and many ladies are exceedingly fond of it. It quickly causes the patient to do without medicine. Terms, One Guinea per week. The above Pamphlet contains his Letters on Medical Galvanism.

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"8, King's Bench-walk, Temple, London, Dec. 31, 1847.

"My dear Sir,—I have taken the 'Arabica Revallenta' for the last six weeks twice a day, and have great pleasure in bearing witness to its efficacy. For years before I had recourse to this excellent food, I had been tormented, more or less, by dyspepsia. I am now enjoying perfect digestion, and all the consequent advantages.

"I am, my dear Sir, your truly obliged friend,
"A Monsieur Du Barry. CHARLES WILKINS, S.L."

"Frenchay Rectory, near Bristol, Dec. 2, 1847.

"Next to God, I owe you a great deal of gratitude for the prospect of health now opened before me.
"(Rev.) THOMAS MINSTER."

[Now at St. Saviour's Vicarage, Leeds.]

"3, Sydney-terrace, Reading, Dec. 2, 1847.

"I can with confidence recommend it, and shall have much pleasure in so doing whenever an opportunity offers.
"JAMES SHORLAND, late Surgeon 96th Reg."

"21, Broad-street, Golden-square, Nov. 20, 1847.

"(Details of nineteen years' agony and three weeks' treatment.)—I humbly and sincerely thank God, and yourselves as His instruments, &c.
"ISABELLA GRELLIER."

"11, Victoria-terrace, Salford, Manchester, Jan. 2, 1847.

"The benefits I have derived therefrom in so short a space of time have exceeded my most sanguine expectations, &c.
"JOHN MACKAY."

"Winslow, Bucks, Jan. 23, 1848.

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4d., 121s., 121s. 4d., 122s., 122s. 4d., 123s., 123s. 4d., 124s., 124s. 4d., 125s., 125s. 4d., 126s., 126s. 4d., 127s., 127s. 4d., 128s., 128s. 4d., 129s., 129s. 4d., 130s., 130s. 4d., 131s., 131s. 4d., 132s., 132s. 4d., 133s., 133s. 4d., 134s., 134s. 4d., 135s., 135s. 4d., 136s., 136s. 4d., 137s., 137s. 4d., 138s., 138s. 4d., 139s., 139s. 4d., 140s., 140s. 4d., 141s., 141s. 4d., 142s., 142s. 4d., 143s., 143s. 4d., 144s., 144s. 4d., 145s., 145s. 4d., 146s., 146s. 4d., 147s., 147s. 4d., 148s., 148s. 4d., 149s., 149s. 4d., 150s., 150s. 4d., 151s., 151s. 4d., 152s., 152s. 4d., 153s., 153s. 4d., 154s., 154s. 4d., 155s., 155s. 4d., 156s., 156s. 4d., 157s., 157s. 4d., 158s., 158s. 4d., 159s., 159s. 4d., 160s., 160s. 4d., 161s., 161s. 4d., 162s., 162s. 4d., 163s., 163s. 4d., 164s., 164s. 4d., 165s., 165s. 4d., 166s., 166s. 4d., 167s., 167s. 4d., 168s., 168s. 4d., 169s., 169s. 4d., 170s., 170s. 4d., 171s., 171s. 4d., 172s., 172s. 4d., 173s., 173s. 4d., 174s., 174s. 4d., 175s., 175s. 4d., 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620s., 620s. 4d., 621s., 621s. 4d., 622s., 622s. 4d., 623s., 623s. 4d., 624s., 624s. 4d., 625s., 625s. 4d., 626s., 626s. 4d., 627s., 627s. 4d., 628s., 628s. 4d., 629s., 629s. 4d., 630s., 630s. 4d., 631s., 631s. 4d., 632s., 632s. 4d., 633s., 633s. 4d., 634s., 634s. 4d., 635s., 635s. 4d., 636s., 636s. 4d., 637s., 637s. 4d., 638s., 638s. 4d., 639s., 639s. 4d., 640s., 640s. 4d., 641s., 641s. 4d., 642s., 642s. 4d., 643s., 643s. 4d., 644s., 644s. 4d., 645s., 645s. 4d., 646s., 646s. 4d., 647s., 647s. 4d., 648s., 648s. 4d., 649s., 6